



# *The Reliquary*

&

## *Illustrated Archæologist.*

JULY, 1905.



### Neolithic Burial.

IN very ancient times there was a widespread and persistent tendency to shape the houses for the dead on the models of the houses of the living, and one of the most striking facts relating to prehistoric receptacles for the bones or ashes of the departed is the general and pronounced resemblance they bear to ancient dwellings. This is well illustrated in the rock-hewn sepulchral chambers of Egypt, the Bronze Age hut-urns found in Italy, and the vast numbers of excavated or constructed tomb-chambers which are to be found widely distributed over the surface of many parts of the world.

It is clear that there was in the prehistoric mind a natural association of the idea of the houses of the dead and the houses of the living. It is precisely the kind of idea which one would expect a primitive people to possess, but it is well to bear it in mind, because it will help to explain much in reference to neolithic burial in England which otherwise might be not quite clear.

The knowledge of this widespread idea, moreover, is of very great value as evidence for the belief at that early period in a future state of existence after death. One of the purposes of the prehistoric tomb was evidently the preservation of the remains of the dead from injury or desecration, and elaborate means were taken, as we shall presently have occasion to point out, to secure this by means of strongly-built or secretly-constructed chambers. The burial of arms, utensils, food, &c., with the dead, as a provision for bodily needs, was a natural corollary, and is valuable as pointing also to the belief in a future existence.

The special archæological value of this, however, as far as the neolithic period is concerned, is that, although the dwelling-places and huts for the living have been destroyed, some, at any rate, of the tomb-chambers have been preserved, and thus many important details, common to both classes of structures, have been rescued from oblivion.

Among some prehistoric and early historic races cremation was practised before the burial of the dead, but it was by no means common among the neolithic people, who interred the entire body, or, at any rate, the entire skeleton, in tombs of various kinds. Sometimes barrows, or earthen mounds, were piled up over the dead, and sometimes megalithic chambers were constructed to contain them. Both mounds and chambers were constructed with the very clearly marked object of ensuring the permanence of the tomb and the burial or burials it contained. The barrows were made of considerable size, and were long, rather than circular like those of the Bronze Age. They were also much strengthened with rough blocks of stone, the chambers within them being constructed of that material.

In the case of cromlechs and other analagous megalithic structures, the same result was attained by means of the weight, solidity, and massive character of the stones employed. In subterranean excavated chamber-tombs, to which particular attention will be drawn directly, it seems that the object was to secure the burial from molestation by hiding it underground.

Without venturing, at the present time, upon any theory as to the possible chronological sequence of the various types of neolithic sepulchral structures in England, it is quite clear that a regular evolution of their forms may be made out. First, we have the simple, or unchambered, long barrow in which human remains are placed regularly or irregularly upon or near the original

ground-surface. Next, is the chambered and more elaborately built long barrow in which provision has been made for the successive interment of the dead in cists or rough chambers constructed of stone. Cromlechs, which are obviously developments of the idea of burial in stone receptacles, mark the next step in the series. Excavated sepulchral chambers in the sides of hills is another type of burial place, of which numerous examples have been recorded in Sicily, a few in Portugal, and three examples have been discovered at Waddon, near Croydon. It is difficult to find in France any subterranean sepulchral chambers which exactly match those in Sicily, Portugal, and at Croydon, and, although there are in Brittany some which seem to have been founded on the same general plan, they lack certain characteristic marks found in the chambers already referred to.

In this paper the various sepulchral remains of the Neolithic Age will be briefly considered in the order just indicated.

*Unchambered Long Barrows.*—Sepulchral barrows of the Neolithic Age present the constant feature of an oblong plan with rounded corners. They are immense mounds varying in size from about 100 ft. to nearly 400 ft. in length, from 30 ft. to 50 ft., or even more, in breadth, and from 3 ft. to 12 ft. in height. On each side of the mound is a large ditch or trench from which the material of the mound has been derived; but it is noteworthy that this ditch is not continued round the ends of the barrow, the ground being left level here, possibly for the purpose of affording a convenient means of approach.

Usually, long barrows are placed with their narrow sides in the direction of east and west, the eastern end being somewhat higher and broader than the other. The sepulchral deposit is usually found under this larger end of the mound. Dr. Thurnam estimates that of the sixty long barrows of Wiltshire about one-sixth part are placed nearly north and south, and in these cases the interments have been found sometimes at the northern end and sometimes at the southern end.

Long barrows, which belong exclusively to the Neolithic Age, and are not found during the Bronze Age or subsequent periods, fall naturally into two divisions, viz.—(1) unchambered mounds; and (2) chambered mounds.

The simple or unchambered mounds are particularly abundant in Wiltshire. In Dorset, Somerset, and Hampshire they also occur, but with much less frequency. They are still more rare in York-

shire, Kent, and other counties, in which other remains of the Neolithic Age are both numerous and important. A valuable contribution to our knowledge of both chambered and unchambered neolithic grave mounds from the pen of Dr. John Thurnam, F.S.A., is printed in *Archæologia*, vol. xlii., and the reader who desires to pursue the subject more fully may be recommended to consult it. Dr. Thurnam therein gives much minute and precise information as to the contents of the barrows, which had been opened under his own supervision, as well as under the direction of earlier archæologists. He shows that in the case of the unchambered mounds the sepulchral deposit was found almost always on or near the natural surface of the ground at the base of the mound. In some cases only a single skeleton was found, but in others as many as fourteen or eighteen were found. He describes the frequent occurrence of round or oval holes scooped in the upper surface of the chalk, varying in size from 1 ft. to 3 ft. in diameter, and from 1 ft. to 2 ft. in depth, and he makes the ingenious suggestion that they might "have been formed for the reception of perishable food or drink, deposited in them at the time of the obsequies, and intended as a viaticum for the dead. They would thus take the place of the fictile vessels called food-vases and drinking-cups, which are found with unburnt bodies in the circular barrows." Not far from the human remains, though at a somewhat higher level, were frequently found the bones of oxen which may be regarded as remains of the funereal feasts.

Two modes of burial seem to have been adopted in the unchambered mounds. In mounds of lesser size there are usually found the bones of one individual, or possibly two, distinctly and separately interred. In the larger mounds, on the other hand, have been found the bones of many bodies promiscuously piled together. Sometimes the bones of the separately-interred bodies were found placed in such a small space as to indicate that they were denuded of flesh before being buried. Probably the flesh had been allowed to decay before burial.

In the larger barrows Dr. Thurnam discovered evidence as to human sacrifice, and thinks it probable that human victims were immolated on the occasion of the burial of a chief. The researches of the Rev. Canon Greenwell at Scamridge and near Rudston in Yorkshire, where there are examples of long barrows, go to show that anthropophagism was practised, indications, in the form of disjointed, cleft, and broken human bones, having



been found of funereal feasts at which slaves, captives, and others were slain and eaten.

It is a remarkable fact that very few objects, either in the form of implements, pottery, or other manufactured articles, have been discovered buried with the bodies in these barrows. Pottery of very poor character has been found, but only very rarely. Some of the flint arrow-heads exquisitely worked and finished, found in the chambered mounds, as well as one found in an unchambered mound at Fyfield, Wiltshire, are of great interest from the fact that they have obviously been purposely fractured. This affords interesting confirmation of the theory of human sacrifice, because the purpose of those who destroyed the arrow-head was to cause its spirit to accompany the spirit of the dead chieftain, just as slaves and dependents were slain in order that they might render him service in another world.

*Chambered Long Barrows.*—Long barrows provided with chambers present many of the features observable in those which have no chambers. There is the same general tendency towards an east and west direction, and one end (usually the eastern) is higher and more developed than the other. Externally, in fact, there is a pretty close affinity between the two classes. Examples of both are usually situated separately and in solitary places. The unchambered barrows, however, are larger than those which are provided with chambers. Moreover, the chambered mounds were surrounded by one or two enclosures of dry walling. In certain districts blocks of sarsen stone were placed at regular intervals round the edge of the barrow. The internal structure of the chambered mounds was, of course, very different from the unchambered. Dr. Thurnam,<sup>1</sup> basing his classification on the internal construction, has been able to make out three types, viz.—(1) chambers opening into a central gallery; (2) chambers opening externally; and (3) cists in place of chambers.

Chambered long barrows occur principally in Gloucestershire, where there are thirteen examples, and Wiltshire, where there are eleven examples. Three specimens have been noted in Somerset, and there is the famous one in Berkshire known as Wayland's Smithy or Wayland Smith's Cave. Chambered long barrows of somewhat different character occur in Derbyshire and Staffordshire, and have been described by Bateman.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Archæologia*, vol. xlii., p. 212, &c.

<sup>2</sup> *Ten Years' Diggings*.

Chambered barrows were clearly improvements on the unchambered group, because they were apparently designed for a series of burials extending over a considerable period. They may be regarded as family or tribal sepulchres in which the more important personages were successively buried. It is also extremely probable that the chambered barrows represent structural develop-

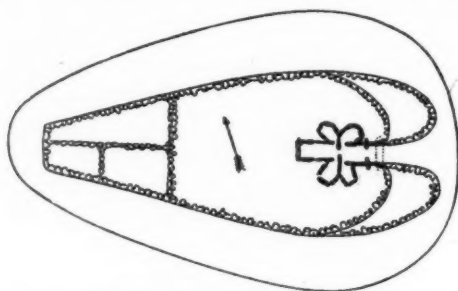


Fig. 1.—Plan of Chambered Cairn at Uley, Gloucestershire.

ment of the long barrow. Indeed, the whole group of ancient sepulchral monuments of elongated type, including cromlechs, may very fairly be classed as developments of the long barrow.

In the plans which have been published<sup>1</sup> of the chambered long barrows of Gloucestershire, &c., one is struck by the great beauty of the outlines of the mounds. The accompanying plans

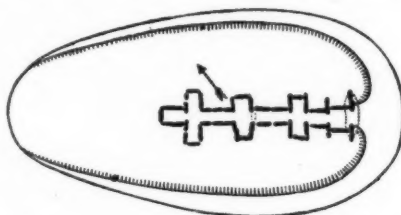


Fig. 2.—Plan of Chambered Cairn at Stoney Littleton, Somerset.

of the Uley barrow, Gloucestershire (figs. 1 and 5), show this feature very well. The plans of the chambers within the mounds are of the greatest possible interest as illustrating the beginning of building in massive stone, and as affording models which may possibly have influenced the builders of the British, Celtic, or Scottish type of Anglo-Saxon churches.

<sup>1</sup> See *Archæologia*, vol. xlii., and *Crania Britannica* (Davis and Thurnam).

The various circles of standing stones, such as Arbor Low, the Rollright Stones, &c., whatever their purpose may have been, had their origin, perhaps, in the upright or slanting stones by which long barrows of the chambered kind were sometimes surrounded. Stonehenge, the most highly developed form of the stone circle in this country, and perhaps in the world, is composed

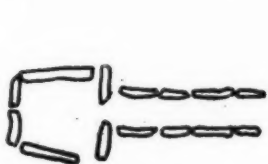


Fig. 3.—West Kennet.

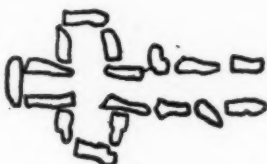


Fig. 4.—Wayland Smith's Cave.

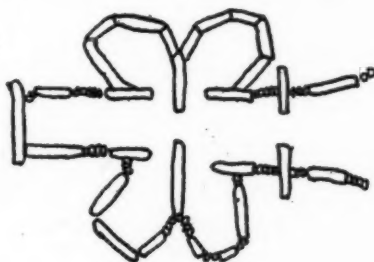


Fig. 5.—Uley.



Fig. 6.—Stoney Littleton, Somerset.

of stones which have been artificially shaped. Recent examinations on the spot have enabled Professor Gowland<sup>1</sup> to place it definitely within the neolithic period; they have also proved that its purpose was not sepulchral.

*Cromlechs*.—According to a learned authority<sup>2</sup> this term may be defined as “a structure of prehistoric age consisting of a large flat or flattish unhewn stone resting horizontally on three or more

<sup>1</sup> *Archæologia*, vol. lviii., pp. 37-118.

<sup>2</sup> *New English Dictionary on Historical Principles*.

stones set upright." A fuller and more precise definition, however, was given more than thirty years ago by Rev. H. Prichard, of Dinam. In *Archæologia Cambrensis*, fourth series, vol. iv., p. 29 (1873), he points out that the term signifies a vaulted grave, or a vault constructed of flat stones, or, perhaps more literally, a flat stone in its position as a horizontal or quasi-vaulting, over a cavity or chamber. He adds: "When these stone-enveloped graves came to be denuded, their skeleton chambers, still vaulted in construction, would naturally retain the name 'cromlech'—an appellation which might finally attach to the cap-stone as the most prominent feature." This more precise statement exactly describes the cromlechs found in England and Wales, as well as Ireland, although in Brittany such structures are called dolmens (table-stones), whilst cromlech is a term applied to a circle of standing stones.

Cromlechs are abundant in Cornwall and Wales, but they also occur in Dorset, Kent, and other English counties. It is a curious and instructive fact that they are found most abundantly near the sea coast.<sup>1</sup> Although now only represented, in most cases, by a group of large stones of varying numbers, it is pretty clear that cromlechs were invariably covered, or partly covered, with an earthen mound, the massive stones forming chambers for the interment of the dead, and thus presenting a striking parallel to the chambered long barrows, to which, in the opinion of Canon Greenwell, F.R.S., and many other eminent archæologists, they were closely related. Indeed, it is difficult to avoid the inference that all cromlechs were natural developments of chambered barrows, the larger size of the stones employed pointing to a more effectual effort to save the remains of the dead from spoliation and desecration. In Japan, where the relics of ancestors have always been treated with profound veneration, if not indeed worship, the massive character of the stones used in the construction of dolmens is most remarkable,<sup>2</sup> but it is a curious fact that one finds in that country no exact parallel to the chambered barrow of Britain.

The megalithic structures in the form of cromlechs in England are far too numerous and too important to be dealt with in a brief paper like the present. It is proposed, therefore, to

<sup>1</sup> See papers by H. M. Westropp and A. Lane-Fox in *Journal of the Ethnological Society of London* (April, 1869).

<sup>2</sup> See a valuable paper on the "Dolmens of Japan," by Mr. William Gowland, F.S.A., in *Archæologia*, vol. lv.

describe only a few examples as types of the great class to which they belong.

At the outset it may be remarked that cromlechs are more numerous on the western than on the eastern side of England and Wales. The same is true of Ireland, Scotland, France, Spain, etc. They are more abundant, for example, in Cornwall than in Kent, counties which might, one would think, be equally likely to afford examples of this species of grave. In Anglesey they are abundant, and there are many on the mainland not far from the

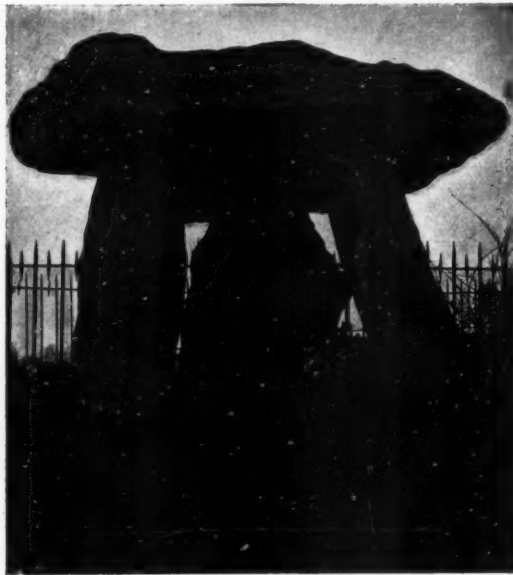


Fig. 7.—Kit's Coty House, Aylesford, Kent.

sea coast. Indeed, the proportion of cromlechs on and near the coast is much greater than inland. This is well shown in papers on "Cromlechs and Megalithic Structures," by H. M. Westropp and A. Lane-Fox, in *The Journal of the Ethnological Society of London* (April, 1869).

To some extent, it will be evident, the distribution of cromlechs must have been affected by the presence or absence of material suitable for their construction, but this was not, by any means, the chief cause. Judging from the position of cromlechs in England,

it seems probable that there were certain particular districts which were occupied by the neolithic races, whilst others were neglected.

One well-defined district of this character was in Mid-Kent, between Maidstone, Rochester, and Sevenoaks. Within limits considerably smaller than those indicated by these three places, there is a remarkably interesting series of megalithic remains. Of these the best known is Kit's Coty House (fig. 7), a pile which still stands in its original position and order about halfway up the



Fig. 8.—Megalithic Remains at Coldrum, Kent, from the East.

southern slope of the North Downs, on a site which overlooks the valley of the Medway.

Kit's Coty House consists of a large cap-stone resting on three more or less upright stones arranged in plan in the form of the letter H. Two of these are slanting inwards, and rest against the middle stone. All are entirely natural forms of grey wethers, without any attempt at artificial shaping. The effect of the massive cap-stone placed on such an arrangement of stones is to render the whole group secure and stable. The precise relation of these stones to the mound or long barrow, which doubtless originally covered them, is, however, open to more than one interpretation. The first, and, one might think, most obvious, explanation, is that



these stones formed a double or twin sepulchral chamber. This is indicated by the massive character of the stones and the absence of any other adjacent large stones, but Mr. Borlase, in his *Dolmens of Ireland*, vol. ii., p. 431, referring to Kit's Coty House, considers

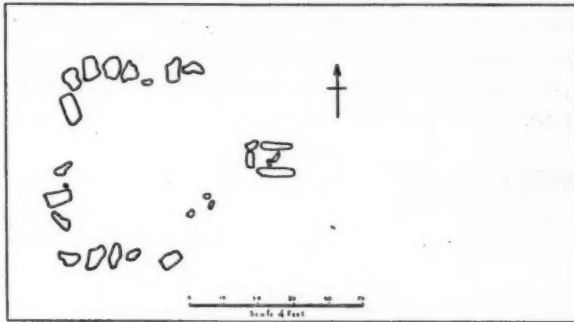


Fig. 9.—Plan of Cromlech, in oblong enclosure of Stones (partly destroyed), at Coldrum, Kent.

that one of these "chambers" was an outer crypt or porch, whilst the other was a regular chamber or cell. After a careful examination on several occasions the present writer has formed the opinion

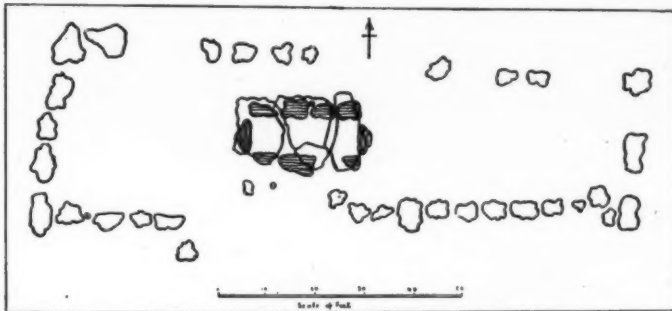


Fig. 10.—Plan of Cromlech, in oblong enclosure of Stones, at Sievern, Hanover.

that these were both sepulchral chambers. The mound has been entirely removed from this interesting cromlech.

The fallen cromlech known as the Countess Stones, the remains of the magnificent sepulchral structure known as Coldrum, or Coldreham (see figs. 8 and 9), and the disturbed cromlechs at Addington, are all interesting remains of neolithic burials. Coldrum, which in general

plan is strikingly like the cromlech at Sievern, Hanover (see fig. 10),<sup>1</sup> must have been, when perfect, by far the most remarkable of its kind in Kent. Its regularly formed blocks of stone, whether shaped by nature or art, form a novel feature amongst antiquities of this class, and suggests a late stage in the Neolithic Age, contemporary, perhaps, with Stonehenge. This regularity of shape may be seen in the accompanying view (fig. 8), showing the eastern end of the cromlech, which has, unfortunately, been bereft of its cap-stone.



Fig. 11.—The Helstone Cromlech (restored), Portesham, Dorset.

The remains in Addington Park have sometimes been described as those of a circle of stones, but this is inaccurate. Mr. (now Professor) Petrie, many years ago, in *Archæologia Cantiana*, vol. xiii., pointed out that these stones were arranged in the form of an oblong.

The fine cromlech on the hills just above Portesham, Dorset, is known as Helstone, or the Hail-stones (figs. 11 and 12). It consists of nine upright stones covered by a nearly oval cap-stone, the latter being locally known as "the Demon Quoit," and traditionally said to have been thrown by the devil to this spot from

<sup>1</sup> For the use of the plan of Coldrum we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. E. H. W. Dunkin, F.S.A.

Portland Pike. The cromlech is situated in a slight hollow on the top of the Downs, surrounded by striking and impressive scenery, and commanding extensive views, especially towards the south. The Helstone is remarkable for its shapable and well-proportioned form, the number and solidity of its supports, and the regular character of its cap-stone. The chamber is capacious and nearly 7 ft. high, but it is possible that the levels underwent some modification when the structure was re-erected some years ago. The cap-stone measures 10 ft. long, 7 ft. 10 ins. broad, and over 2 ft. thick. There are remains of a series of large blocks



Fig. 12.—The Helstone Cromlech (restored), Portesham, Dorset.

of stone originally enclosing, perhaps, a space round the cromlech. This is the finest cromlech in the county.

The Grey Mare and her Colts (fig. 13) is another sepulchral group, situated at Gorwell, in Dorset. It is evidently a very important long barrow with some massive blocks of stone at the eastern end of the mound. The latter, as far as one could ascertain by experimental probing with a stick, appears to consist largely of stones of various shapes and sizes.

Associated with cromlechs and stone circles in some parts of England and Wales are massive standing pillar-stones. Whether they have or have not any close relationship to neolithic interments

is doubtful. An excellent example is the King Stone, near the famous Rollright Stones situated on or near the border line between Oxfordshire and Warwickshire.

*Excavated Subterranean Sepulchral Chambers.*—The three subterranean chambers found at Waddon, near Croydon, have already been referred to in these pages (*The Reliquary*, January, 1903, and January, 1905). It will not be necessary, therefore, to do more now than draw attention to the special interest which attaches to them as excavated subterranean chambers specially made for burials in the latter part of the Neolithic Age. Without in any way desiring to give undue prominence to a discovery with which



Fig. 13.—“The Grey Mare and Colts,” Gorwell, Dorset.

the present writer was associated, it seems only right to state that, after carefully comparing all the evidence of the Waddon chambers, with that of chambers like them, at Palmella, in Portugal, and Caltagirone, in Sicily, it may be regarded as proved that the chambers at Waddon unquestionably belong to the same class. We are thus able to add one more to the methods of interment hitherto known to have been in vogue in prehistoric times in England.

On referring to fig. 7 in the issue of *The Reliquary* for January, 1905, p. 32, the ground plan of one of the Waddon chambers will be seen to be considerably flattened on the inside on each side of

the entrance. The same feature, as well as many other points as to size, elevation, and general characteristics, have been noted in certain subterranean excavations at Palmella (fig. 14), in Portugal, by M. Cartailhac.<sup>1</sup> This celebrated archaeologist ascribes to them a sepulchral purpose, and regards them as belonging to the latter end of the age of polished stone.

At Caltagirone, a town situated on the summit of an isolated mountain in the southern part of the island of Sicily, is a very remarkable group of sepulchral chambers excavated in the steep rocky sides of the mountain. These chambers are circular in plan, and domed or beehive-shaped in elevation. They are approached

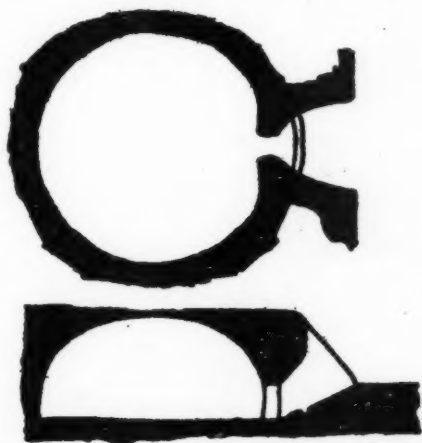


Fig. 14.—Plan and Section of Sepulchral Chamber at Palmella, Portugal.

by a lateral passage with a constant and well-pronounced constriction at the entrance. Some consist of single chambers, whilst others have four chambers, each approached by a common avenue. An important communication on these remains has lately been published. It is written by P. Orsi, and appears in the *Atti della R. Accademia dei Lincei, anno ccc.*, 1904. *Notizie degli scavi di antichità*, vol. i., Fasc. 2, under the title of *Siculi e Greci a Caltagirone*. Detailed accounts, plans, and elevations, with which the paper is plentifully furnished, make it possible to see the strong resemblance of these Sicilian tomb-chambers to the three chambers discovered at Waddon, as well as those at Palmella, in Portugal.

<sup>1</sup> *Materiaux*, 3 ser. ii. (1885), pp. 1-18; reprinted in Cartailhac's *Les Ages Préhistoriques de l'Espagne et du Portugal*.

In the accompanying series of rough tracings (fig. 15), some of the chief characteristics of the chambers at Caltagirone are indicated, and it will be observed that the flattened outline of the wall near the entrance, to which attention has already been drawn in the case of the Portuguese and English chambers, occurs also in several cases in the Sicilian chambers.

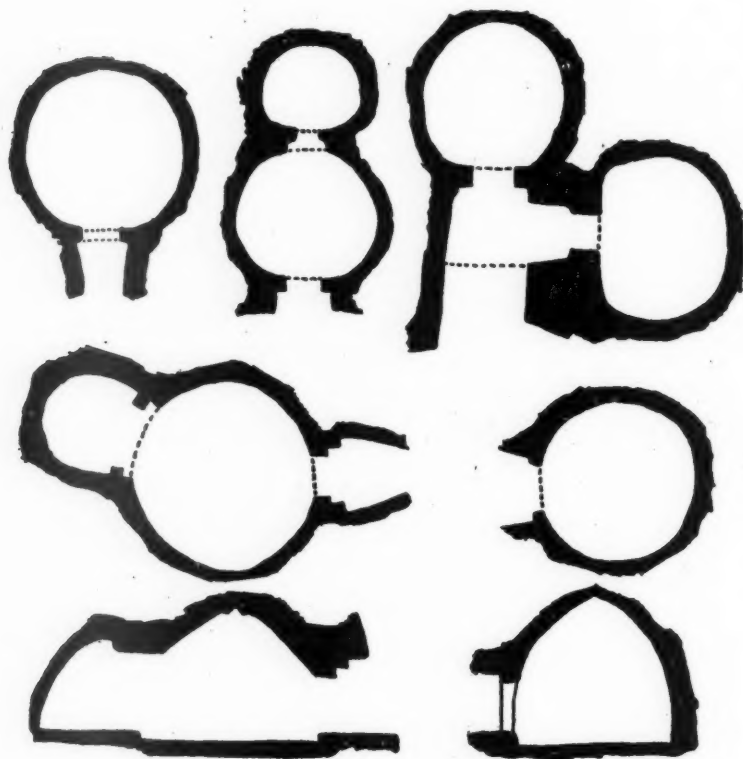


Fig. 15.—Plans and Sections of typical Sepulchral Chambers at Caltagirone, Sicily.

The pottery found in the Caltagirone chambers shows a general roundness which suggests close affinities with that of the Neolithic Age, but in association with them were certain metallic objects clearly belonging to the Bronze Age. To an early stage in the latter period, therefore, some at least of the chambers may be referred.



There is reason to believe that the Bronze Age stage of culture began much earlier in the Mediterranean region than in parts of Europe remote from that great centre of civilisation. These Sicilian chambers as a group may be considered, therefore, to represent the overlap of the ages of stone and metal, a period possibly contemporary with the middle, or even the early part of the Neolithic Age in what are now the British Isles.

It is hardly possible to doubt that, as has already been pointed out, the Waddon chambers belong to the same class as the Sicilian and Portuguese groups of sepulchral chambers, but it is a curious fact that the evidence, which was communicated by the present writer to the meeting of the British Association at Belfast in 1902, is apparently insufficient to prove the case in the opinion of some authorities.<sup>1</sup>

GEORGE CLINCH.



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<sup>1</sup> Perhaps it is only a proof of the extraordinary rarity of this species of sepulchral chamber, and the small amount of attention which English archaeologists have devoted to it; yet the fact remains that in a recent work (*Remains of the Prehistoric Age in England*, p. 267) on prehistoric antiquities, Professor Windle, F.R.S., classes the Waddon chambers with dene-holes. Referring to those well-known excavations, he speaks of the Waddon chambers as "somewhat similar constructions."

## Some Churches in the Darent Valley.

### I.—ST. MARY'S, HORTON KIRBY, KENT.

THERE was a time in the Gothic revival when men held that the model of all ecclesiastical architecture was to be found in the cathedral church. The parochial church, according to the transient theory, should be, as a structure, a cathedral in every thing save dimensions. Coloured marbles, painted glass, elaborate pulpits, and ambitious organ cases were the order of the day, and these when funds permitted were bundled into buildings far too small to properly receive them; but rammed in they were by dint of careful planning, until the containing walls were filled to overflowing. It is, perhaps, possible to admire the intense enthusiasm of those times, whilst questioning its taste and validity. Little purpose would be served by tracing the history of this perversion of art, but as a contrary principle it may be laid down that in the days of purer architecture the broad lines of style adopted in cathedral and parochial churches had close relationship, whilst great differentiation was made only in regard to the amount of ornament applied to the structures.

It is now generally recognised that the ordinary parochial church, to be really successful, must not be a cathedral in miniature—it must be simple in plan and devoid of the smallest suggestion of overcrowding in the application of ornament. It must be remembered that carefully considered proportion is by itself a true ornament, and a building lacking this fundamental principle will never be made anything but commonplace and tawdry by the application of secondary ornament, however well displayed or executed. Mediæval builders grasped this principle of proportion, and at St. Mary's Church, Horton Kirby, there is an excellent example of breadth, height, and lightness in effect produced with the minimum of ornament.

The exterior is well balanced in outline, and, in spite of many patchings and partial rebuildings, it still appeals as a building distinctly above the standard of the surrounding churches.

On plan the church is cruciform, and entered by the south

door, the effect on the unprepared observer is, to say the least, striking and not easily forgotten (fig. 1).

It may be of interest to attempt some outline of the architectural history of the structure as illustrated by existing evidences.

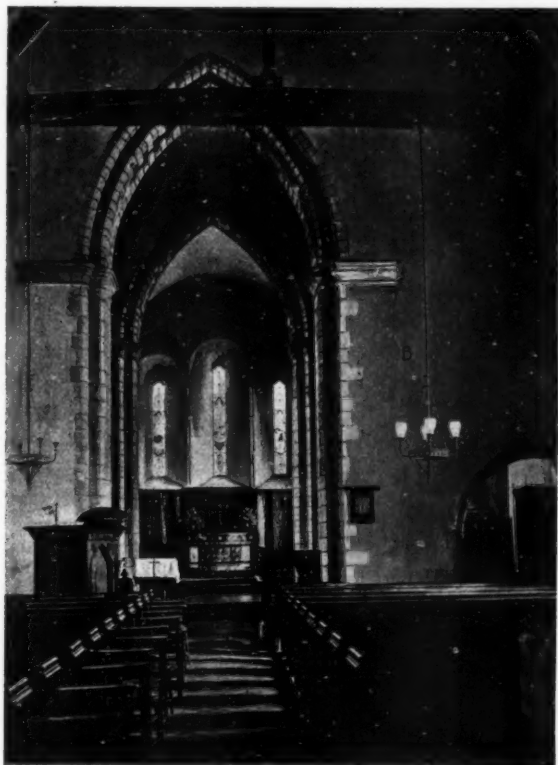


Fig. 1.—St. Mary's, Horton Kirby. Interior looking East.  
Note that the King-post in the Nave shows the ridge of the Nave Roof.

It is not demonstrable from structural evidence that any pre-Norman church of stone existed on the present site—the suggestive name, Kirby, being a later introduction, and forming no part of the original place name.<sup>1</sup> Domesday Book, however,

<sup>1</sup> "One Wm. Kirby was some time owner of Horton Kirby, which occasioned the addition Kirby to Horton, the antient name of the parish." Kilburne: *Topographie and Survey of the County of Kent*, 1659.

The inventory of xxxii., Nov. vii., Edw. vi., gives the name as Horton Kyrby. In Speede's Map of Kent, 1610, it is Horton Kerby. On the O.S. plan it is changed into Horton Kirkby. In Domesday Book it is simply Hortune.

definitely states: "And there are four bordars there. And a mill of five sulings. And six acres of meadow. There is a church there. And wood of three hogs." Although there is doubt as to the exact date assignable to Domesday Book (*Round Feudal England*, p. 139), that is, whether 1086 is the date of issue or compilation only, the mention of a church is interesting; and,



Fig. 2.—St. Mary's, Horton Kirby. Interior from South Door.

as it cannot refer to the present structure, which is of a much later date, the reference must be either to a Saxon building or a Norman one of early twelfth century work. There is just a possibility of a Saxon church, taking into consideration that the place name is partially of Saxon origin. At the same time, so far as structural evidence goes, no proof is forthcoming for the

existence of a pre-Norman church, the evidence even for a Norman building—two fragments over the west door and a third possible one over the porch—is so extremely slight that, lacking the evidence of Domesday Book, I should be very reluctant to place much reliance on what may be merely stray fragments from another site. The remains over the west door consist of two fragments of pellet moulding—an early twelfth century type it is true—but it is difficult to accept them as belonging to the church mentioned in Domesday Book, taking that reference as

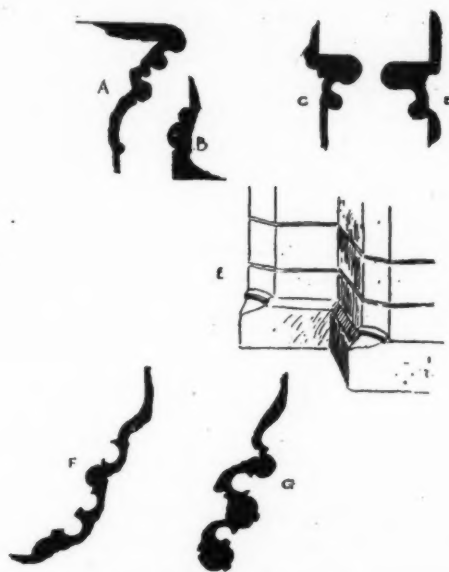


Fig. 3.—St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.

A, B, Base and Capital of Tower Arches. C, Capital of Transept Arch (Arcade).  
D, String-course in Transepts. E, Bases of Arcading in Transepts.  
F, Jamb of West Door. G, Arch of West Door.

evidence of a Norman church of that time. The fact that none of the masonry shows definite signs of Norman tooling is unimportant, as the whole of the early masonry may have been re-tooled when incorporated in the later building.

The balance of probability points strongly to the existence of a Norman church, but the only certain thing in its history seems to be its complete demolition (between the years 1190-1200) to make room for the present church.

The earliest work now visible is the crossing (fig. 2), which

is late Transitional in character of the latest years of the twelfth or the early part of the thirteenth century. Perhaps the clearest trace of late Norman influence is to be seen in the rectangular, massive, and simply recessed piers supporting the tower. The angles of these are chamfered, the chamfers ending in a simple and characteristic stop. The greater refinement of post-Norman times, however, is well seen in the delicate tooling of the ashlar and the mouldings of the capitals (fig. 3). Transitional influence is again clearly reflected by the simple base of two half-rounds, a rather poor and ineffective composition when compared with the good mouldings above. The evidence of the pointed arch in change of style is here especially faulty, because in the transepts round and pointed arches occur in close association. The piers are grouped on flat and simple plinths, and in many places bear masons' marks (see fig. 4). On the western face of the south-west



Fig. 4.—Masons' Marks, St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.

pier facing the nave is a consecration cross accompanied by modern forgeries. Slight evidence of red and deep yellow washes exist on some of the masonry of the interior.

The extent of the Transitional work is shown on the plan (fig. 5), and, although the transepts are included under that date, the details suggest a period verging indeed almost into pure Early English work; the east wall of the transept is shown in fig. 7; the work is of the greatest severity, and relies solely on proportion for effect. The arches are acutely pointed, massive in character, and may represent an attempt of a later architect to harmonise the composition with the heavier work of the tower arches. The boldly worked string-course traversing the walls and forming the capitals of the columns is typically Early English, and it is here that the strongest differentiation may be made between the transepts and the crossing (see fig. 3). It seems to have been a



general rule of mediæval architects to carry out restorations in the *motif* of the original work, at the same time giving full play to the taste of the period in the selection of mouldings—a trait not always inherited by present-day restorers. The strong light

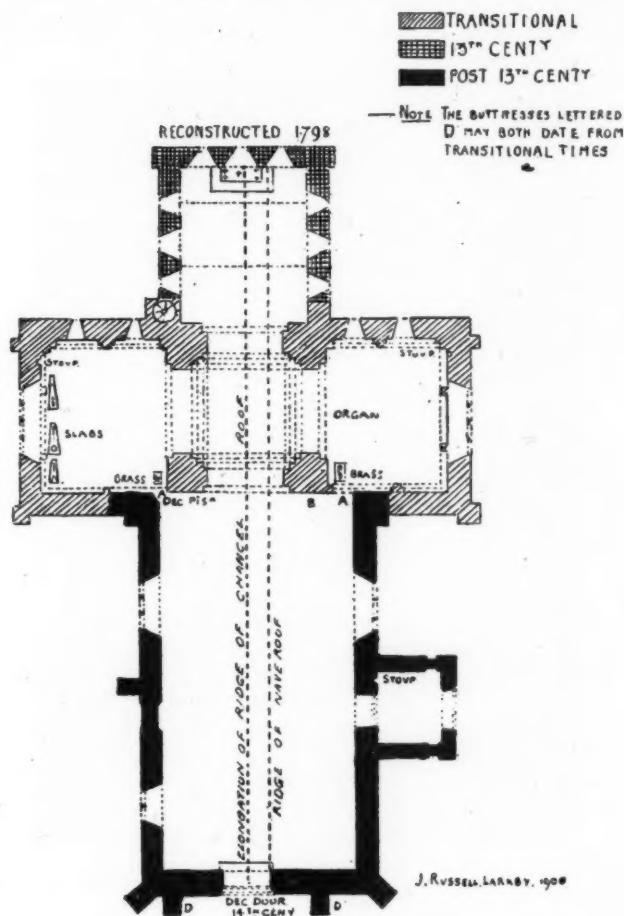


Fig. 5.—Sketch-plan, Horton Kirby Church.

thrown on the dividing pilaster by the southern window of the transept has a good effect in showing the beauty of the work. The recesses in the walls are pierced by long lancet windows; the corbels under each arch were connected with secondary altars (fig. 7).

On the south wall of the transept are three acutely pointed blind arches, the eastern arch having a piscina similar to that in fig. 8 in the north transept. In the central arch, towards its apex, are the fragmentary and indefinite remains of a wall painting representing a portion of the life of St. Catherine. It whets one's desire for an investigation of the unlovely white-wash administered by the



Fig. 6.—West Wall of South Transept and Tower Pier, St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.

inartistic hands of times past. On the west wall of the transept are two round-headed arches of unequal size, and in style resembling the work in the crossing; the larger example is shown in fig. 6; the question of its junction with the nave will receive attention later on. The details of the north transept are similar in nearly all respects with the exception that near the

north wall are three ancient tomb slabs, two of which are shown in figs. 9 and 10. The latter is of Purbeck marble, *circa* 1220. Bearing in mind the features above alluded to, it may be stated that the Transitional church consisted of the present crossing, transepts and a nave and chancel; of the latter features no clear structural evidences now exist.



Fig. 7.—East Wall of South Transept, St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.

At or about the year 1215 the chancel of the Transitional church was destroyed, and a longer eastern limb erected in its place; in this plan alteration, the developments of the church followed on lines very usual in Kentish churches of the thirteenth century. Similar cases of thirteenth century extensions to the chancel occur at Burham, Offham, West Malling, and Orpington.

In the case of Horton Kirby church, however, the chancel suffered subsequent disfigurement, being greatly reduced in length about the year 1798, the old material being incorporated in the reconstruction. The arrangement of lights offers no peculiarity, although the eastern triplet is not quite satisfactory—the utility of the circular-headed rear arches being open to doubt (see fig. 1). For a reconstruction, however, the work is good, and for 1798 it is excellent; in place of the present ancient material there might have existed a “neat classic interior”!

I now come to a feature of some novelty—the relation of the nave and transepts. A reference to the plan (fig. 5) will show that

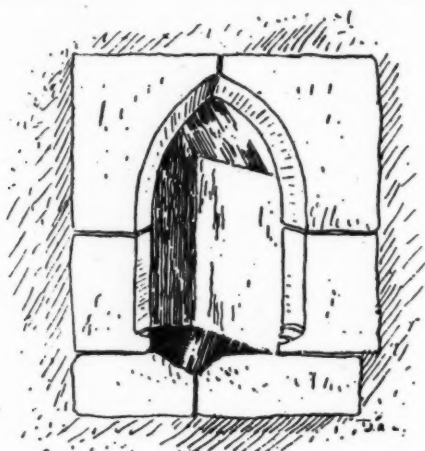


Fig. 8.—Piscina in North Transept, St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.

the ridge of the nave and chancel roofs are not in alignment, and a further reference to fig. 1 will show the interior divergence of the nave and chancel. For a line drawn from the point of the central light of the eastern triplet will pass through the points of the nave and chancel arches, but miss the King-post indicating the ridge of the nave roof. The probability of a rebuilding of the nave during the fourteenth century is suggested by the western doorway (fig. 11), which has features characteristic of *circa* 1340. The point of this doorway, it is important to notice, is in strict alignment with the ridge of the chancel roof, and an imaginary line drawn from the centre of the door, continued to the eastern limb, divides the crossing, the primary work of the building, into

two equal parts. The western door, therefore, seems to occupy an unaltered position, and it becomes tolerably clear that structural alterations have been made in the nave, resulting in a deflection to the south. It is not certain, however, that the alteration affected both walls of the nave; possibly only the north wall has undergone alteration since the fourteenth century.

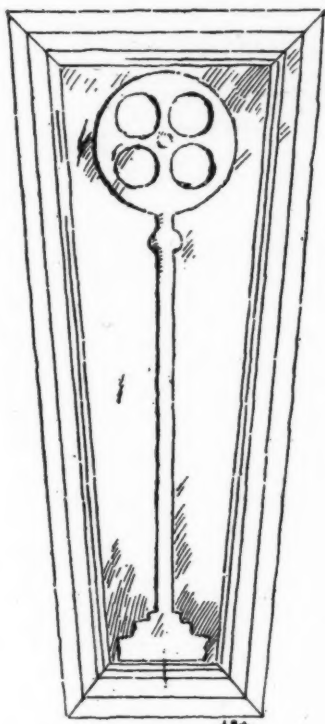


Fig. 9.—Slab in North Transept,  
St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.

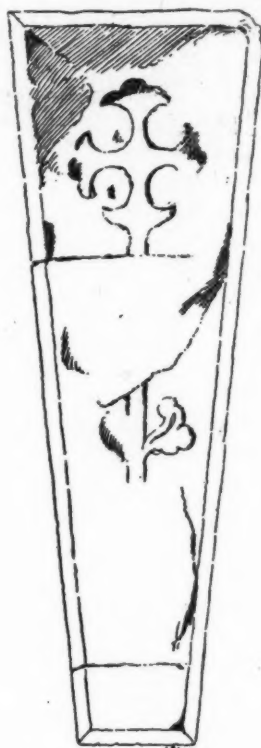


Fig. 10.—Slab in North Transept,  
St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.

The two buttresses at the west end (marked D on the plan) are of an early date; it will be noticed that, so far as the fourteenth century doorway is concerned, they are in a proper position, being equidistant from the line of the chancel roof continued through the nave; they are out of position so far as the present nave is concerned—a result owing to alterations of the north wall, where every structural detail is of fifteenth century work.

In the fourteenth century the church consisted of the Transitional crossing, the long Early English chancel, and a reconstructed nave, of which the south and west walls still stand.

The plan of the building prior to the fourteenth century alterations is a question of some interest. That the present junction of nave and transepts is not the original intention of the earlier builders is shown by the fact that the nave walls cut off and disfigure the arches lettered A on plan and shown in elevation in figs. 1 and 6. These arches, moreover, are recessed, chamfered, and end against the tower piers in plain corbels; the companion arches are of a single order only. It is not likely that these open arches were intended for external doorways, as in that case the nave walls would be made to start from the western face of the piers (B on fig. 1 and plan fig. 5), narrowing the nave to the proportion of a mere passage. If, on the other hand, these small low openings were intended as communications to aisles, the nave arcades might well spring from the piers (B on fig. 1 and plan fig. 5), and the additional space occupied by the aisles would relieve the nave of any suggestion of lankiness. It is possible that these arcades were intended to spring from the extended capitals of the western arch of the crossing (fig. 1), where there is sufficient room for their insertion between these capitals and the jambs of the round-headed openings below. It is easy enough to picture the noble effect of a succession of arches similar in type to the work of the crossing. The Rev. G. M. Livett has no doubt as to the existence of a nave of the same date as the eastern limb, and he regards the inner buttresses of the west wall (D on plan) as illustrating the lines occupied by the nave arcades inside. With the latter part of his remarks I am in complete agreement; at the same time, I cannot but regard the buttresses as belonging to the Transitional church, because they closely resemble the masonry of the transepts, especially in their plainly chamfered angles. The work, too, is of a sturdy character far heavier than the thirteenth century work in the chancel. It would be difficult to prove, I think, that the Transitional architect did not complete the western part of his church. Alteration of the nave westward was the exception during the thirteenth century, whilst extensions to the chancel might almost be looked upon as the rule. Of the latter there is definite evidence at Horton Kirby church.

The Decorated door at the west end (fig. 11) is of interest as



illustrating the existence of a fourteenth century nave. The use of the fillet, engaged shafts, and roll mouldings mark it as a characteristic example in a district singularly devoid of fourteenth century work.

Below the step is a large slab of Purbeck marble, which one shudders to think of as the pre-Reformation altar stone.

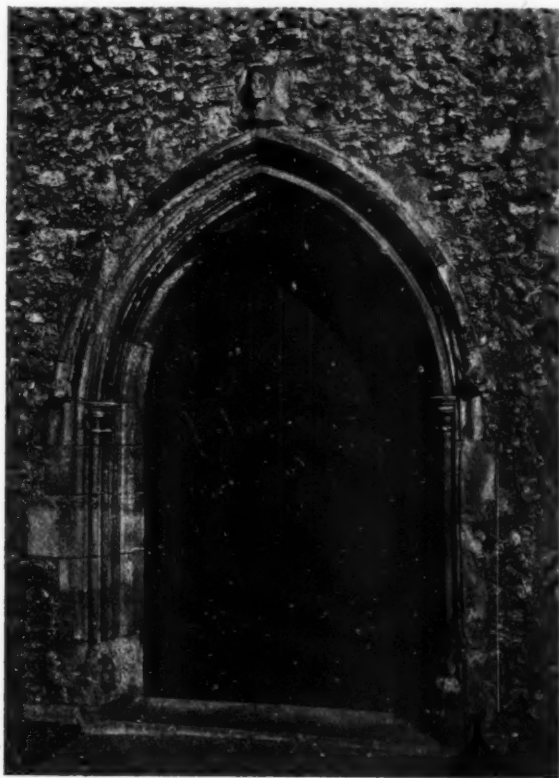


Fig. 11.—Western Doorway of Nave, St. Mary's, Horton Kirby.  
Note the fragments of Norman moulding above the point of the arch.

In the fourteenth century the church consisted of the Transitional crossing, the Early English chancel, and a Decorated nave. At this time (*circa* 1340) the plan developments seem to have reached their limit; the subsequent alterations to the nave affecting the elevation but not the plan, beyond a deflection of the north wall to the south. The external south-east angle of

the ashlar of the south porch has the remains of a sundial, much defaced by the weather, the name-scratcher, and other agents of destruction.

Soon after the Conquest the manor passed into the possession of that fighting prelate Odo, Bishop of Bayeaux, who held very considerable estates in the district. The manor was then called Hortune or Horton, the first recorded appearance of the name Kirby being in 1294. At the enthronisation feast of Robert Winchelsea (twenty-third year of Edward I.), Roger de Kirkby made claim to serve the Archbishop on that day as cupbearer; the claim was admitted by virtue of the claimant holding his manor of Horton of the Archbishop, but he was eventually disqualified on the ground that he was not in knight's estate. It was from him that the manor and village obtained the name of Kirkby, now Kirby. On the death of Roger the manor passed to his son Gilbert, and afterwards (*circa* 1483) it went by marriage to Thomas Stonar, of Stonar, in Oxfordshire. A brass in the south transept of the church was regarded by Hasted as belonging to Gilbert de Kirkby.<sup>1</sup>

Sir John de Cobham, with the consent of Simon Sudhury, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the first year of Richard II., gave the church of Horton to the Master and Chaplains of the Chantry of Cobham (founded by him) and their successors. This received Papal confirmation by a Bull of Gregory XI., and was evidently regarded as a possession of some importance. In 1378 the transfer was confirmed by Thomas, Bishop of Rochester, who endowed the vicarage, saving to himself and his successors a pension of one marc per annum due from it. He also granted to the vicar all oblations made at the altar, the tithes of flax, hemp, milk, butter, cheese, cattle, calves, wool, lambs, geese, ducks, pigs, eggs, wax, honey, apples, peas, pigeons, fisheries of ponds, rivers, lakes, fowling, merchandise, trade, herbage, pasture and feedings, mills, all the herbage of the churchyard, and all the small tithes for ever—a comprehensive list embracing practically the whole of the possessions of the parishioners. In return the vicar was to sustain the charges for the procuration of the archdeacon, bread, wine, and

<sup>1</sup> The effigy is certainly that of a lady wearing the horned head-dress of about 1485. At her feet is the little lap-dog often engraved on brasses to ladies of note. This seems to have escaped Hasted's notice. The brass is probably that of the wife of Thomas Stonar, to whom the manor went by marriage with a descendant of the ancient lords of the manor.

*Some Churches in the Darent Valley.* 175

necessary repairs of his vicarage and church, excepting the reparation of the chancel.

In the thirty-first year of Henry VIII. the college at Cobham was dissolved, but certain rights were granted to George, Lord Cobham, in return for which he gave to the King the parsonage of Horton, subject to yearly payments of 13s. 4d. to the Bishop of Rochester and 9s. 6d. to the archdeacon. At a later period it passed into the possession of Lancelot Bathurst of Franks, in this parish (*temp* Queen Elizabeth).

The King's Commissioners found a chantry (chapel) here supported by a yearly stipend of £3 6s. 8d., payable from Boxley Abbey, for the provision of a priest to celebrate Divine Service in the parish church of Horton for ever. The chapel of this endowment was, perhaps, situated in the nave near the western face of the north-west pier, where there is a fourteenth century piscina.

J. RUSSELL LARKBY.



## Some Notes on the Manors, &c., of High Wycombe.

**I**N ancient records High Wycombe is spelt in a variety of ways, *e.g.*, Wickham, Wyckham, Wykam, Great Wicombe, Chipping or Chepping Wycombe, all significant of its position on the banks of the little river Wye, or Wick (a Celtic word meaning stream); *'combe* being the Old English for the Celtic *cwm*, a valley or hollow. It is a pleasant town, situated midst the beech-clad Chiltern Hills, about five miles north-east from Marlow, thirteen miles from Reading, and twenty-nine miles north-west from London, in the Hundred of Desborough, Rural Deanery of Wycombe, Archdeaconry of Buckingham, and Diocese of Oxford.

During the occupation of Britain by the Romans, Wycombe was undoubtedly a place of some importance, for remains of a Roman station are still to be seen at the east end of "the Rye," and also on the summit of Castle Hill, near the church, they appear to have erected a fortification. Of late years, several coins of the reigns of Nerva, Antoninus Pius, and Marcus Aurelius have been unearthed; also a gold coin of Boadicea, in the King's Wood.

During the eighteenth century a Roman pavement, part of a villa subsequently discovered, was found in a place called "Penn's Mead." Several old mosaics were executed with very fine tesserae of black, red, yellow, and white pottery, on a solid basis of flints and rubble.

On the north and south sides of Wycombe are deep indentations in the hills, showing the ancient British trackways—the one on the north leading to Amersham (Agmondesham), and the other to Marlow and the Thames Valley.

That Wycombe was also a Saxon town may be gathered from the prefix Chepping: *Ceapping* being the Anglo-Saxon word for a market, hence the word chapman, a merchant.

Although the charter does not now exist, the town is said to have been made a free borough during the reign of Henry I., but records prove the town was regularly incorporated in 1 Ed. IV. In a charter of 1558, it is declared that "by charters of preceding sovereigns, as well as by customs from time to time whereof memory of man doth not exist, the town of Chepping Wycombe hath always been a market town and perpetual free borough, and incorporated of the mayor, bailiff, and burgesses of the same."

Dr. Gumble was vicar of Wycombe when he wrote the biography of Monk, whom he assisted in concerting measures

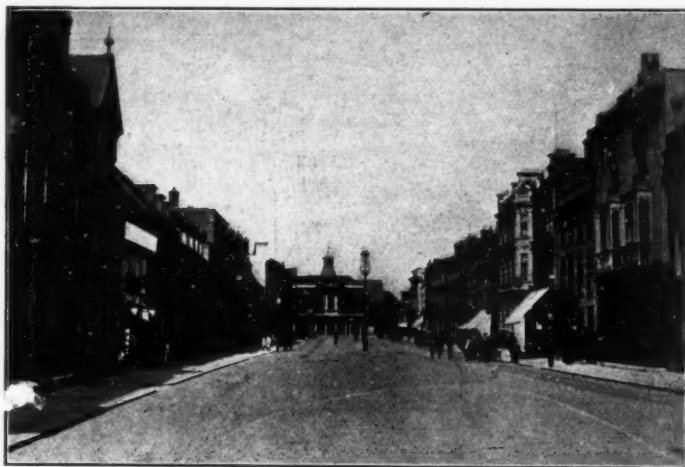


Fig. 1.—High Wycombe. The High Street showing the Guildhall.

*(From a Photograph by F. J. Findlow.)*

for the Restoration. This town was also the residence of Sir Edmund Verney, M.P., and Standard Bearer to Charles I., who was slain at Edge Hill; and of Thos. Scot, the regicide, who was M.P. during the Protectorate. After the battle of Reading, the place, then in possession of the Parliamentary forces, was successfully attacked by the Royalists under Prince Rupert. John Archdale, a Quaker, was elected M.P. in 1698, but he declined to take the oath, and the election was set aside.

Other notabilities have been: Wm. Allen, Bishop of Exeter 1560-1570; John Mundy, Lord Mayor in 1522; Dr. Llewellyn, the poet, Principal of St. Mary's Hall, who wrote, amongst other

things, "An Elegy of the Death of the Duke of Glo'ster" and "Wickham Wakened, or the Quaker's Madrigal," in 1672; Richard Chalfont, Fellow of Lincoln College, Minister of the English Merchants in Rotterdam in 1644; Philip Taverner, born here in 1617; and John Rowell, once a plumber, who afterwards practised glass painting here, and subsequently went to Reading. He painted a set of windows for Dr. Scawen Kenrick in Hambledon Church. It was he who discovered the beautiful red which is so conspicuous in old windows, but the secret died with him in 1756. A considerable trade was carried on here in cloth in the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries, but it is now noted for its chair and paper making.

The Guildhall (shown in fig. 1) is a brick building supported by stone columns, erected in 1757, by John, third Earl of Shelburne, in place of an old wooden structure, built at the beginning of the seventeenth century. It was restored in 1859 by Sir G. H. Dashwood, Bart.; and the Council Chamber now contains some fine portraits, &c.

In the town is the Royal Grammar School, erected on the site of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, said to have been built in 1175, parts of which are still to be seen in the present house of the master, and close to the playground (see fig. 2). This hospital was originally founded by the socmen who occupied the slopes of the valley around Wycombe, first for the pilgrims and travellers, and afterwards for the destitute and sick. At its dissolution in 1549, it passed into private hands, but in 1562, the mayor, &c., asserted their ancient rights, and, to make it a royal foundation, they granted the hospital and all its lands to Queen Elizabeth, who re-granted them to the mayor, &c., three days later, for establishing a grammar school.

Wycombe Abbey was anciently known as Loake's House; in 1818 it was called Loake's Abbey, and finally Wycombe Abbey. It stands in a park of some 250 acres, and was practically rebuilt by the first Baron Carrington, in which family it remained till 1896, when Earl Carrington sold it, with 30 acres, to the Girls Education Co., Ltd., and is now used as a school.

A leper hospital was founded here during the reign of King Stephen, in what is now known as St. Mary's Street; and another in 1229, dedicated to St. Margaret and St. Giles. The pest-house stood at the east end of the town on the north side of the London road, where the railway bridge now crosses. A toll-gate standing



near Hayward's Cottage was demolished in 1826, and a new one built near the top of Bassetsbury Lane, which was afterwards pulled down, but the old toll-house remains. Wycombe Priory, a fourteenth century building, still exists; it is situated to the north of the church, and used as a private residence.

The Arms of the Corporation of High Wycombe are: Gules, on a mount proper a swan argent gorged with a ducal crown and chained or. This swan is now represented with wings expanded, which differs from the ancient Arms—the wings being closed.

The following are some notes respecting the manors:—

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, Brictric held this manor



Fig. 2.—High Wycombe. Ruins of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.

(From a Photograph by J. P. Starling.)

as tenant to Queen Edith. In the next reign (Harold), Wigod, a noble thane, lord of Wallingford, possessed it; and in the reign of the Conqueror he still held it, and died lord *circa* 1070, leaving an only daughter, Aldith, married to Robert de Oilgi, Doilly or D'Oyly, who held it at the Domesday Survey. The following is the translation of the account given in the Domesday Book:—"Land of Robert de Oilgi. This Robert holds 'Wicumbe' in right of his wife, and is taxed for 10 hides of land. There are thirty carucates of land. In the demesne there are four hides and three plough-teams. There are also 40 villeins with 8 bordars, who have 27 ploughs. Also 8 servi, and 4 bordars, and 6 mills, valued at 75s. *p. a.*

There are three carucates of pasture land, besides what is sufficient for the lord's horses, and the plough horses belonging to the villeins. Pannage for 500 hogs. The whole valued at £26; when received £10, and in the time of King Edward £12, when Brictric held this Manor of the Queen."

On the marriage of Maud, only daughter and heiress of Robert Doilly, this Manor of Wicumbe passed with her to her two husbands: Milo Crispin and Brian FitzCount; but as she died without issue by either of them, Henry I. seized the Honour of Wallingford, and about this time, it is said, he made Wycombe a free borough.

During the reign of Henry II., the borough and out-village answered to the Crown £72 per annum, and the church 13s. 4d. The King gave this township to his son Geoffrey, by Rosamond, daughter of Lord Clifford, which was confirmed to him in 1189. This Geoffrey, though never consecrated, was made Bishop of Lincoln, which See he held nine years, and resigned in 1182. He was translated to York on the accession of Richard I., and died in exile at Grosmund, in Normandy, in 1212.

King John divided the out-village between Alan Basset and Robert Vipont. The former had also a grant of the whole Manor of Wycombe in 5 John, except what Vipont held, on payment of £20 per annum, and doing the service of one knight's fee.

In 1212, Alan Basset gave King John £133 6s. 8d., and an excellent palfrey, that his daughter might marry William, Lord de Lanvellei. Alan, Baron of Wycombe, died in 1232, leaving issue, Gilbert, who married Isabel, daughter of William de Ferrers. He died in 1240, and his only son, shortly afterwards; consequently Wycombe passed to his uncle, Foulke Basset, Dean of York, afterwards Bishop of London, who paid rent for it in 1245, but, being a clergyman, his estate devolved to Philip Basset. He married Hawise, daughter of John Grey, of Eaton, and left a daughter and heiress, Alice, who married Hugh le Dispencer, Lord Chief Justice, who was killed at Evesham in 1264. This Alice married a second time, Roger Bigot, Earl Marshall, who had view of frank pledge, assize of bread and ale, weyfs, &c., in *suburbio de Wycomb*, in 1276. She died in 1280, leaving issue Hugh le Dispencer, her heir, on whose attainder, in 1326, this manor reverted to the Crown.

In 1332, Edward III., for the good service rendered him, granted this manor to Wm. de Bohun, who was afterwards created Earl of Northampton, K.G.; and on a partition of the estates of this

family in 1421, this manor again became vested in the Crown, on the marriage of Mary, daughter of Humphrey, Earl of Northampton, to Henry de Bolingbroke, son of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, afterwards Henry IV.

In 1479, the Queen, Archbishop of York, and others, being seized to the use of the King and his heirs, &c., of the Manor of Wycombe, called *Bassetsbury*, the fee farm rents of the town of Great Wycombe, &c., they, on the special command of the King, demised and granted the premises, with the appurtenances, to the Custos or Dean and Canons of Windsor, and their successors, until the King, his heirs or successors, should grant them other land of the same value. This manor has ever since been in the possession of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, who have leased it to various persons. The family of Raunce were lessees for several years prior to 1574, and John Raunce rebuilt the manor house *temp.* James I. (The greater part of the borough is in this manor. The population in 1500 was about 1,000; it is now 16,840.)

The following have also been lessees :—In 1574, Edward, Lord Windsor; 1657, Thos. Gower; 1666, Roger Rea; 1670, Edward Atkins; 1679, John Loggan; 1682, Althea, Mary and Elizabeth Loggan; 1683, Mary Loggan; 1691, Sir Orlando Gee, Kt.; 1717, Sir Francis Dashwood, Bart. The manor became vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and was afterwards held on lease by the representatives of Sir George H. Dashwood, Bart.

The other manors granted by King John to Robert de Vipont are called *Temple Wycombe*, *Loakes*, and *Windsor* or *Chapel Fee*. Robert granted these manors to the Knights Templars, who held them until the dissolution of their Order in 1324, by Edward II., when, in all probability, the manor of *Temple Wycombe* was granted to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. In 22 Ed. IV., Robert Bardsey died lord of the manor of *Loakes*, which was held as of the Honour of Wallingford, by fealty.

In the 4 Henry VIII., the manors of *Temple Wycombe*, *Loakes*, and *Chapel Fee* or *Windsor* were in the Crown; and, in 1552, Edward VI. granted the manor of *Temple Wycombe*, with all its appurtenances, formerly belonging to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, to John Cock, in which family it remained many years.

In 1604, John Raunce sold the manor of *Loakes* to Richard Archdale, Esq., and he, in 1628, sold *Temple Wycombe* and *Windsor* or *Chapel Fee* manors (which last he had purchased, in 1609, of Thos. Wells, Esq.) to the said Richard Archdale.

In 1700, Thos. Archdale, Esq., sold the above manors to Henry, Lord Shelburne, second son of Sir William Petty, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Hardress Waller, Kt., of Castletown, co. Limerick. In 1699, he was created Baron Shelburne, and in 1709, Viscount Dunkerron and Earl of Shelburne. He died in 1751, having survived all his children, and left his estates to John Fitzmaurice, second son of his sister Anne, Countess of Kerry; this John was, in 1751, created Viscount Fitzmaurice and Baron Dunkerron, and in 1753, Earl of Shelburne. In 1760 he was made a Peer of England as Baron Wycombe, and dying the following year was succeeded by his eldest son, William, who was created Viscount Calne and Calnstone, Earl of Wycombe, and first Marquess of Lansdowne on November 30, 1784, and a Knight of the Garter. He married, first, Sophia, daughter of John, Earl Granville, by whom he had John Henry (afterwards Marquess of Lansdowne), another son, William, who died young; and secondly, Louisa, sister to the Earl of Upper Ossory, who died in 1789, and by whom he had Lord Henry Petty, born in 1780, upon whom, after the death of his elder brother, devolved the marquissate, with the estates.

Lord Shelburne, having served in important offices of State under the Bute, Grenville, and Chatham ministries, and also under the Rockingham ministry of 1782, became Prime Minister of England in 1783. He died on May 7th, 1805, and was buried in the family vault in the north aisle of the chancel of All Saints', Wycombe.

The manors of *Temple Wycombe, Loakes, Windsor or Chapel Fee*, and the mansion house of Loakes, were sold for £10,500, by auction, to Elisha Biscoe, Esq., who, afterwards objecting to the title, an Act of Parliament was passed to obviate the difficulty, and the Right Hon. Robert, Lord Carrington, formerly Robert Smith, the friend of the younger Pitt, became the purchaser in 1799.

Lord Carrington died in 1838, and was succeeded by his son, the Hon. Robert John Smith, afterwards Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of Bucks. He took the surname of Carrington in 1839. He married, first, the Hon. Elizabeth Katherine Forester, second daughter of Cecil Weld, first Baron Forester; she died in 1832, and left issue: Mary Isabella, born 1824, died 1840; Cecilia Katherine Mary, born 1826, and married in 1853 to Charles John Colville of Culross, P.C., eleventh Baron in the Peerage of Scotland. His second marriage, in 1840, was with the Hon. Charlotte Augusta Annabella Drummond Willoughby, youngest daughter of the twentieth Baron Willoughby de Eresby. He died in 1868,

and left issue, amongst others, Charles Robert, the present lord of the manor, born in 1843, and educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, M.P. for Wycombe 1865-68. He was A.D.C. to Edward VII., when Prince of Wales, on his Indian tour ; Governor of New South Wales ; Lord Chamberlain of Queen Victoria's household, 1892-95 ; and bore St. Edward's staff at the Coronation of the present King. He was created Viscount Wendover of Chipping Wycombe, Bucks., and Earl Carrington in 1895, and assumed the name of Wynn Carrington the following year. In 1878 he married the Hon. Cecilia Margaret Harbord, eldest daughter of the fifth Baron Suffield, and has issue : Albert Edward Samuel Charles Robert, Viscount Wendover, born in 1895, and five daughters. Daw's Hill Lodge, Wycombe, is one of the seats of Earl Carrington.

The parish church of High Wycombe, dedicated to All Saints, is the finest in the county. It was built about 1270, partly on the site of a more ancient building erected in 1080, by a wealthy Saxon named Snarting. A description of this magnificent building will form the subject of a future article.

T. HUGH BRYANT.



## An Old Manor House.

THE interesting manor at Northborough, near Peterborough, is mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle as belonging to the cell of St. Pega, in the village of Peakirk, as a portion of its endowment. In the reign of Henry III. it became the property of the De la Mare family, and in the reign of burly King Harry it passed into that of Fitzwilliam. The old house is said



Fig. 1.—Old Manor House, Northborough.

*(From a Photograph by Mrs. Nichols, Stamford.)*

to have been built by Geoffrey de la Mare in 1340, and the character of its architecture is clearly of the Decorated period; some of its details are of remarkable beauty. It is pronounced by antiquaries to be one of the best specimens existing of a mediæval house in this country. In plan it resembles the letter H, the hall occupying the centre, while the butteries, kitchens, and servants' rooms were in one wing, and the chambers of the family in the other. The ancient building, on which the setting sun has shed



its glory for centuries, was surrounded by a moat and fortified walls, of which the gate-house remains, with its original oaken gates, both for carriages and footmen, the latter door having also a central wicket.

The gateway and postern are both recessed within the span of one arch, which gives great character to the entrance; the vaulting ribs, which spring from the corbels, still remain. The structure of the building, and the custom of the age in which it was erected, justify the conclusion that it was made capable of



Fig. 2.—Outer Gateway at Northborough.

(From a Photograph by Mrs. Nichols, Stamford.)

defence. Connected with the gate-house is a range of buildings erected in the time of Charles I. (1620); they consist of stables with chambers over. The upper rooms contain fireplaces which indicate that they were intended for dormitories. Tradition says that Oliver Cromwell, who frequently visited the village, converted these rooms into barracks for his soldiers.

The doorway in the wall on the east side leads to the lower guard-room or porter's lodge, and to a stone staircase which led to a room over the gate-house.

The decorated windows, the groined arches, and old doorways are highly interesting. At the west end of the old hall three original doorways still remain; these have ogee-arched heads enriched with crockets and ball-flower carved in stone, and communicate with the kitchens, buttery, and strong room for stores and plate. One gable of the hall is boldly crocketed, and terminates in a beautifully carved circular chimney; the cornice is enriched with the ball-flower ornament. The windows of the hall are square-headed, with mullions, transomes, and decorated tracery, and furnish good examples of domestic mediæval windows.



Fig. 3.—Inner Gateway at Northborough.

(From a Photograph by Mrs. Nichols, Stamford.)

The hall is 26 ft. by 24 ft. The ball-flower is continued in a deeply hollowed moulding under the eaves, and opening into the hall is a porch of Henry VII.'s time.

Eventually this old house came into the hands of the Claypoles, one of whom, John Claypole, married Elizabeth, the eldest and favourite daughter of Cromwell, who made his son-in-law Master of the Horse, a lord of the bed-chamber, and a knight in 1657. The manor was purchased of a Mr. John Brown in 1564 by James Claypole, of King's Cliffe, one of whose descendants was also knighted some forty years later and

resided here. The venerable house is more remarkable for its structure than its history, but it is interesting to note that it was the last home of the widow of the Protector Oliver, "the mate of one greater than a king." In this ancient residence of his daughter, Elizabeth Claypole, Mrs. Cromwell passed the last years of her life, on the verge of the fen country and in quiet retirement, but regarded in the village with silent reverence. Very little is known of her life and character, but she was never elated with prosperity. She preferred the life of a plain country dame,



Fig. 4.—Old Fireplace in Kitchen at Northborough.

(From a Photograph by Mrs. Nichols, Stamford.)

and constantly advised Cromwell to make terms with the exiled king and restore him to the throne. The Lady Protectress was the daughter of Sir James Bouchier, of Felsted, in Essex, a wealthy merchant, and she brought her husband a small fortune. She was very unwilling to take up her residence at Whitehall, and the Royalists liked to gossip about her homeliness, but no one could ever cast a slur on her fair fame. She was the tender mother of nine children, the stay and comfort of her neighbours, the careful mistress, and a crown of blessing to her husband.

What has once been the abode of the widow and daughter of such a man can never be but interesting from the associations which belong to it. She survived her illustrious partner fourteen years. She died in the old house on October 8, 1665, and was buried in the Claypole chapel attached to the church of St. Andrew. To



Fig. 5 —The Claypole Chapel at Northborough.

(From a Photograph by Mrs. Nichols, Stamford.)

Geoffrey de la Mare is also attributed the building of this chapel, which is of bold decorated work. The entry of her death in the register ran thus:—"Elizabeth, the relict of Oliver Cromwell, some time Pro. of England, was buried November 19th, 1665."

CHARLOTTE MASON.

## Dragons and Monsters beneath Baptismal Fonts.

IN Italy it is common to find animals placed beneath the columns of porches and ambones as if carrying their weight, and these animals are almost invariably lions, although, in the case of the great ambone of San Ambrogio at Milan, tortoises have been used. Such lions are particularly noticeable in the works of the Longobardic architects; and they are also found in parts of Italy, where the influence of their style was somewhat remote, as in the works of Vassilectus and of the Cosimati in Rome, in the ambones of the cities round the Gulf of Salerno, and in the later Gothic work of the Florence Duomo. But these works are not grotesques, nor are they imaginary monsters, the offsprings of wild fantasies or lurid dreams. The situations in which these lions were placed—at the entrances of the churches, beneath the columns of the Gospel ambones, or supporting the Paschal or Gospel candlesticks—were positions of importance and watchfulness; they are never represented as crushed with the loads they bore, but rather as dignified by their office; and they were endowed with all the attributes with which a lion is credited with all the ability of the artists who chiselled them. The sculptors of the South may have looked live lions in the face; and the period when the wild animals of the desert had been common in the Roman arenas was not yet so long past but that the traditions of them still lingered among the people.

But in the dark and frozen North, among an imaginative and adventurous people, endowed with a love of ornament and with some knowledge and traditions of Eastern or Byzantine art, acquired in their past migrations, and having only their own wild fancies or travellers' tales on which to form their ideals, those uncouth monsters, dragons and chimæras, which are everywhere found writhing through all the early sculpture of Northern Europe, were born. In the interlaced ornaments carved on the wooden

door-jambs of Norwegian churches, on Swedish fonts, as in the example we give from Karreby (fig. 1), in the bas-reliefs of the church-yard crosses of Iona and Man, and in the intricate convolutions of the Irish manuscripts, these fearsome beasts, unknown in the art of the sunny South, twist themselves in the graceful but loathsome



Fig. 1.—Font at Karreby, Sweden.

coils of the serpent. No such beasts had ever presented themselves before the eyes of their designers; but long anterior to the introduction of Christianity among the Scandinavians, the serpent had become associated with their religious ideas, and they believed that the Jörmundgand, the World Serpent, lay in the sea coiled



Fig. 2.—Interlocked Dragons at Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham.

round all lands, holding his tail in his mouth. Thus, in spite of the fact that in northern climes no animal existed which could by any possibility be mistaken for a dragon or a serpent, the belief in their existence was firmly rooted and widely spread through all the mediæval period. Many a legend of encounters with dragons



has survived in this country ; and the story of the destruction, by a Crusading member of the house of Lambton, of a "loathly worm" which haunted the banks of the Wear, is commemorated by the sculpture, if that be not itself the origin of the story, of two interlocked dragons in the neighbouring church of Houghton-le-Spring (fig. 2).

It is difficult to say whether the monsters, which in the architecture of the North take the place of the lions of the South, were



Fig. 3.—Font at Tryde, Sweden.

intentionally made grotesque, or whether their remarkable quaintness and distortion are merely due to the lack of skill on the part of the sculptor ; though this latter would appear to be the case, with the added intention of making their appearance as hideous and ferocious as possible. This would certainly seem to be so with the large pairs of beasts, with their contorted heads and enormous teeth, to be seen under the columns of the narthex of S. Patroclus at Söest, in Westphalia, or in the baptistery of Dalby, in Scania, Sweden.

Whilst the placing of animals beneath the bases of columns was thus common to the architecture of the North and South, they were also introduced, frequently in Scandinavia and occasionally in other parts of the north of Europe, as supporters to the stems of fonts. They were not always shown in their entirety, but very often appear as heads or masks projecting from the stems or bases. They do not seem to be peculiar to any one period, but are found both in early and late Gothic work; though it is difficult in Scandinavian countries, where architecture did not run



Fig. 4.—Font at Dalby, Sweden.

through the same series of gradual changes as elsewhere, exactly to fix the date of the work, except by the presence or absence of some Runic inscription, or the accidental introduction of some easily recognised detail. The elaborately carved font at Tryde (fig. 3), near Ystad, and the simpler one at Dalby (fig. 4), near Lund, which may both belong to the latter half of the twelfth century, have only heads projecting from their bases; whilst the font from Askums (fig. 5), now in the Gothenburg Museum, and which may be two centuries later in date, has three beasts of a rude and hideous expression which form its base.

This use sometimes of heads only, or sometimes of the whole bodies of animals, appears in that curious group of fonts, supposed to have been made at Tournai about the end of the twelfth century, of which that at Winchester Cathedral is the best example in England. The font of Zedelghem, in Flanders, which, like that of Winchester and the cylindrical font of Brighton, bears the sculptured legend of S. Nicholas of Myra on the bowl, has on the angles and interspaces of the base, heads in low relief; whilst the font at Vermand near S. Quentin, of the same group, figured by De

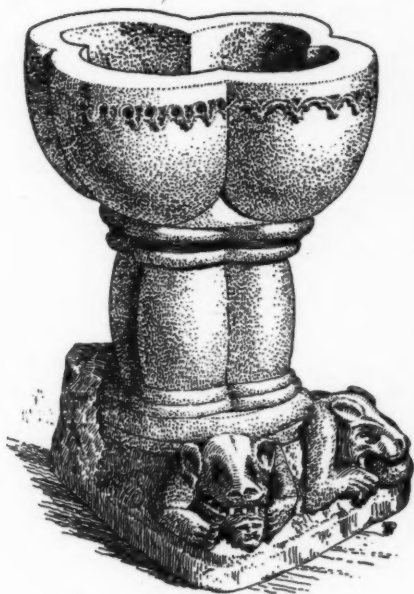


Fig. 5.—Font from Askums, Sweden.



Fig. 6.—Font from Skreosvik, Sweden.

Caumont, has the four angle-shafts resting on the heads of beasts, which seem intended to represent lions, each head having two bodies spreading round the central stem.

Of the symbolism of these various unrecognisable monsters nothing can be affirmed; and beyond being, perhaps, intended as personifications of the Evil One compelled to bear the sacred waters of regeneration, nothing can be suggested. But as on the bowl was frequently sculptured the story of Jonah and the whale, so the beasts below the stem may have been meant to symbolise the same idea. This is clearly the case with the font from

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Skreosvik (fig. 6) in the Gothenburg Museum, which has on the bowl an animal bearing all the characteristics of a dragon, which is swallowing the prophet, while, on the base, a similar creature, in high relief, has just cast him forth on to the strand.

But apart from monstrosities or symbolic animals, there were occasionally introduced, as in much of the carving of English mediæval architecture, beasts which are frankly grotesque. This is

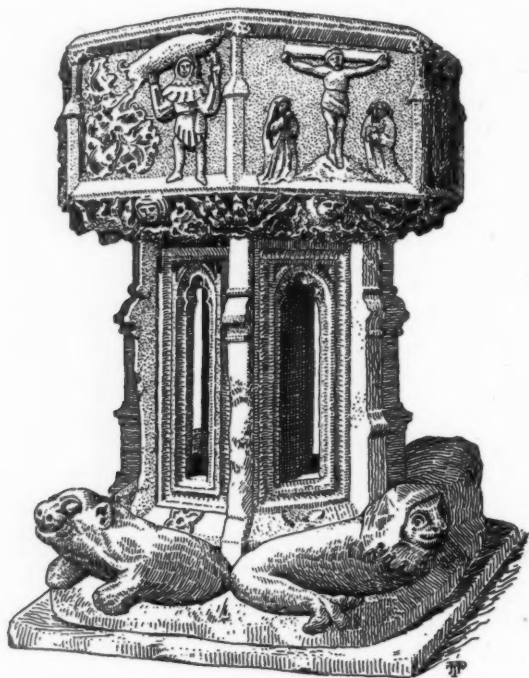


Fig. 7.—Font at West Drayton, Middlesex.

the case with the font of S. Martin, West Drayton, Middlesex (fig. 7). This is a fine example of late fourteenth century, and is altogether unique. The octagonal bowl, which is set angularly on the square base, has all the panels carved in high relief, the central one of the arrangement having a jester with his bauble and wine skin, the panels on either side bearing the Crucifixion and the dead Christ; whilst the remainder contain angels holding shields or scrolls. The bowl is carried by a central shaft surrounded by open

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panelled work standing on uncouth grotesques, whose heads form the four angles of the base. The two monsters facing the west are much damaged, but those towards the east may have been intended to represent seals, the northern one of which—and herein the intentional grotesqueness is displayed—wears a jester's hood.

There are, doubtless, in the north of Europe many more examples of the character which we have here illustrated ; but the subject does not appear to have attracted any particular attention, though it is one which merits more research than has hitherto been devoted to it.

J. TAVENOR-PERRY.



## Notes on Archæology and Kindred Subjects.

### ROCK CRYSTAL BIBERON OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

(Collotype Frontispiece.)

By the courtesy of Mr. Charles J. Wertheimer we are enabled to illustrate a very remarkable work of art recently sold at Christie's.

The body of the vessel together with the cover may be described as roughly resembling a monster, the head of the monster forming the spout, though the monster shape is lost in the fluted shell-like effect of the general outline. Applied below the neck are two wings. The stem is oviform, the base oblong and of quatrefoil outline, carved in low relief with cockle shells.

The following account of the sale appeared in the *Daily Mail* for May 27th:—

"Never in the annals of Christie's famous rooms has such a remarkable combat taken place as occurred yesterday, when a rock crystal biberon, mounted with enamelled gold, 12½ ins. high and 1 ft. 4½ ins. long, the property of Mr. John Gabbittas, was offered for sale.

"For the past week there has been much discussion as to its authenticity, some going so far as to say that the catalogue was wrong in stating it to be Italian sixteenth century work, and that it was of much later manufacture. The British Museum authorities, however, pronounced it genuine.

"With trembling hands the porter placed the precious object on the desk beside him, while the auctioneer stated that the general impression was that it was German sixteenth century work, and suggested an opening bid of 5,000 guineas, which, however, was not forthcoming. There was a pause, and then Mr. Coureau, at the back of the rostrum, offered 500 guineas.

"There was a laugh, which, however, soon subsided as the price crept up, until Mr. Charles Wertheimer, who had entered early into the fray, increased the price to 9,500 guineas.

"'Ten thousand guineas,' said Mr. Duveen, amid applause. Mr. Wertheimer nodded, and the price went up another 500 guineas.

"'Eleven thousand guineas,' said his opponent.

"And so the bidding went on until 14,500 guineas was reached. Every face turned towards the top of the room, where, surrounded by



his sons, stood Mr. J. Duveen, the participator in so many duels at Christie's rooms. Would he let it go?

"'Fifteen thousand guineas,' he cried, as if in answer. Like an echo came the auctioneer's cry of "Fifteen thousand five hundred guineas," at which price Mr. Duveen retired, leaving Mr. Charles Wertheimer the possessor of the cup and the maker of the record auction price ever paid for a single object of art in an English sale-room.

"This sale formed a fitting conclusion to the sale of the collection of old English silver formed by the late Mr. Louis Huth, which preceded it, for which a total of £18,424 10s. was obtained.

"The sale of this collection, one of the most famous art collections that has come under the hammer for many years, has occupied the King Street rooms for nine days, producing an aggregate of £148,165."

#### WAYSIDE CROSS AT WHESTON, DERBYSHIRE.

At Wheston, a tiny hamlet near Tideswell, in Derbyshire, is the only cross which really deserves the name of "wayside," as others in the county are, as a rule, market crosses. It is but little known, lying, as it does, right off the beaten track of the usual tourist, and, moreover, is by no means easy to find even when Wheston has been found. This little place lies about 1½ miles north-west of Tideswell, whose church richly deserves the title it has obtained of "Cathedral of the Peak," both on account of its unusual size and the beauty of its design and workmanship.

To find this cross the visitor goes on through the numerous farms of which Wheston is formed till the large pond on the left is passed. Then keep a look-out on the left for a farm which has, on the side farthest from Tideswell, a small plantation. It is in this plantation that the cross stands, and before many more years have passed it will be hidden from the road (fig. 1).

The shaft and steps are restorations of by no means the right sort, while the foliated head and massive base-stone appear to be the original. I am told that some few years ago the Bishop of Nottingham offered the sum of £200 for this beautiful little cross, but he was very properly refused, and thus this five-hundred-year-old work of art still stands in its old place, as far as is known.

Its date is certainly prior to 1400, and is probably between that year and 1350, that is, the close of the Decorated period. The head, which is all original, is in a most excellent state of repair, save for one broken cross-arm and the mutilated face of Our Lord, which most probably was the result of the mistaken zeal of some fanatical reformer. The broken arm is that which points in a southerly direction. The eastern face of the cross is adorned with a half-length figure of Our Lord crucified (fig. 2), while on the western is a representation of the Virgin and Child, beneath the Star of Bethlehem (fig. 3).

The principal side is, no doubt, that facing east, on which is depicted the Crucifixion. The head of the figure is apparently tonsured and surrounded by a plain circular nimbus. The face, between the eyebrows and the mouth, has been completely hacked away. The artist who carved this has been far from happy in his inspiration, as the whole thing is really nothing more than a ghastly caricature. Nothing could be more absolutely brutal in appearance than the figure he has carved, or more terribly repulsive, with its huge hands, long thin arms, short emaciated body, ribs showing through the skin, and large projecting ears. It is most unlikely that the face was in any way a redeeming



Fig. 1.—Wayside Cross, Wheston, Derbyshire.

feature when it is seen how the rest of the figure has been treated. The only ornament on the cross itself is the bunch of five leaves at each end of the cross-arms. The lower part of the body of Our Lord may have been carved originally, but if so it has been cut away like the face. I think, from a close examination, that its present condition was the original one, *i.e.*, a half-length figure.

The other side, the western, is carved with a representation of the Nativity. Again this is as much travestied as is the other side; the Virgin's face is but little less coarse than the eastern face design. Her right arm holds the infant Christ, while the left is raised to her breast. The Child is in long clothes, and the Virgin also is dressed

in flowing robes to her feet. Over the head of this group is the Star of Bethlehem, consisting of four points with smaller rays issuing from between them. Over the star are several horizontally incised lines, which appear to be without meaning or intention. At each end of the cross-arms is a large double rosette; otherwise there is no ornament.

The original portion of this cross has a delightfully light and dainty effect, which is very detrimental to the somewhat clumsy shaft. The base-stone is 4 ft. 6 ins. in height, and the shaft and head 7 ft. The Vicar of Tideswell (the Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher) writes to me as follows: "I have often heard that it (the cross) is not in its original position, but that it had been removed from some other place at no great distance off. But I can find nothing but tradition, and the oldest residents, both in Wheston and in Tideswell, only remember



Fig. 2.—Wheston Cross, Derbyshire. East Face.

it in its present position. [Their memory goes back sixty years or more.] . . . Rhodes in his *Peak Scenery*, p. 98 (1818), speaks of a small portion of the cross being broken off and 'built and cemented into an adjoining wall.' In Sterndale's *Vignettes of Derbyshire* it is spoken of as being 'in a small enclosure below the mansion house.' I am told that forty or fifty years ago it was in the farmyard, but that the present smaller enclosure was made at a more recent date."

The photographs which form the illustrations were taken in 1900, and Mr. Fletcher says that the growth of the trees round the cross makes it almost impossible to photograph it now. What will it be like in a few years?

The broken piece referred to in Rhodes' *Peak Scenery* was, of course, the piece forming the arm on the left of fig. 2, which is now restored to its former position.

Why Wheston should be chosen for the site of a wayside cross, such as this, is hard to understand. Perhaps there was a mule track from Tideswell to Chapel-en-le-Frith for the transport of the wool, one of the staple industries of Tideswell, as Mr. Fletcher says it was, in his excellent little booklet, *A Guide to Tideswell and its Church*, and here, perhaps, the muleteers were wont to pray for a safe passage through this, one of the wildest and loneliest parts of the Peak of Derbyshire.

There are numerous remains of these wayside crosses round Tideswell, at "Wishing Well," between Tideswell and Wheston; also



Fig. 3.—Wheston Cross, Derbyshire. West Face.

at the entrance of Bramwell Dale (brought from Summer Cross); at Litton, in the village; and on the old road from Tideswell to Millers' Dale. The position of yet another is indicated by the name Poynton Cross, no longer extant.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Fletcher considers that "the crosses were, in all probability, originally, resting-places for the bearers and friends of the departed, as they carried their dead from the distant part of the parish to the church."<sup>1</sup> Should this be the case one would expect to find the usual coffin-stones, as in the Cornish and Welsh lich-gates, but they may have been used to macadamise the roads with.

G. LE BLANC SMITH.

#### TOMB OF SIR ROGER DE KERDESTONE, REEPHAM, NORFOLK.

THE tomb of Sir Roger de Kerdestone is one of the finest of the fourteenth century in the county of Norfolk. The illustration (fig. 1) gives a good general idea, but some detail is unavoidably missed, especially that of the small figures at the base. On fig. 2 these figures are shown on a larger scale. No inscription

<sup>1</sup> From Mr. Fletcher's *Guide to Tideswell*.

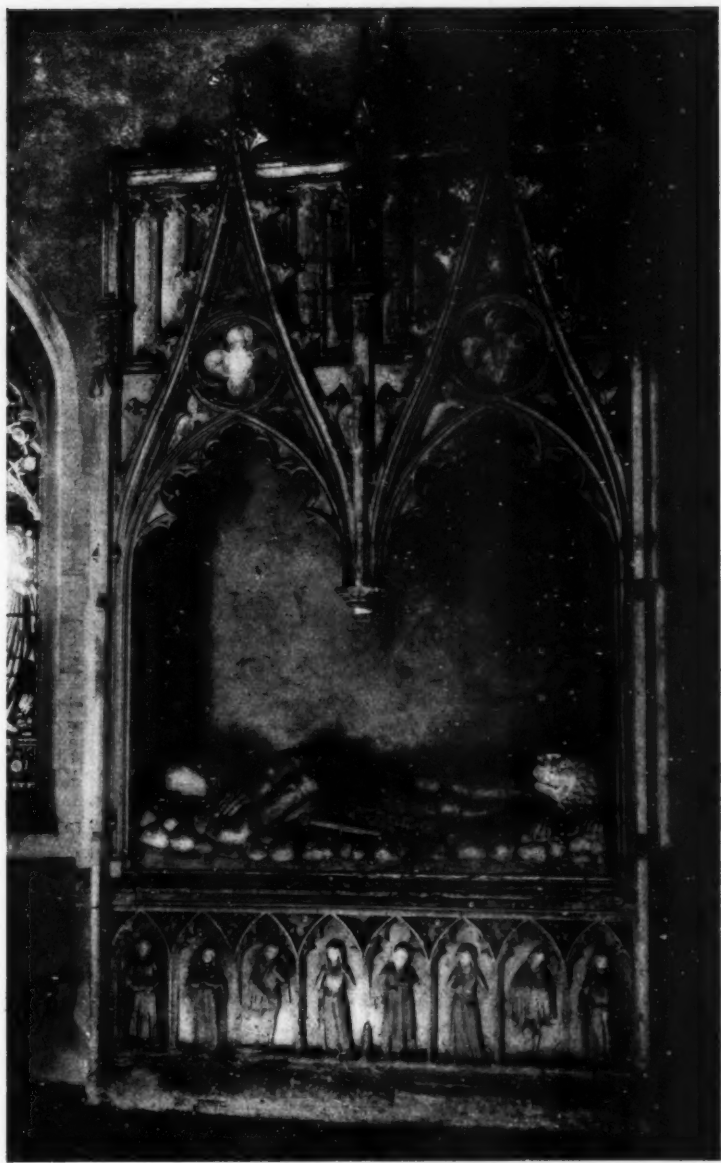


Fig. 1.—Tomb of Sir Roger de Kerdestone, Reepham, Norfolk.

remains on the tomb, if ever there was one; for identification we trust to heraldry alone. On each of the sides, placed two-thirds of the way up from the base (not visible in the illustration), an angel is represented holding a buckled strap which supports in its turn a large shield of arms carved in stone and charged with a saltire engrailed (Kerdestone gules, a saltire engrailed argent). The tomb is on the north wall of the chancel.

Sir Roger de Kerdestone was Lord of the Manor of Kerdestone in Reepham, and died in the eleventh year of the reign of Edward III., 1337. He is represented on his tomb in a hauberk of chain mail,



Fig. 2.—“Weepers,” Reepham Tomb, Norfolk.

over this is a jupon held in its place by a richly jewelled sword belt; the lower edge of the jupon is indented; the gauntlets are of plate and the spurs rowelled.<sup>1</sup> The knight rests on a bed of stones, his right arm grasps his sword, whilst his left is brought across his chest in a cumbrous manner so that his left hand touches the rocks immediately above his right shoulder. It is hard to say what is the meaning of so curious a resting-place. Many conjectures have been made; that it typifies penance, or again, that it denotes a traveller (Weaver). Another theory is that a pebbly shore—and such is found along the Norfolk

<sup>1</sup> A detailed description of the armour is in Stothart's *Monumental Effigies*, by John Hewitt, 1876 edition, where three plates of the tomb are reproduced from the first edition of 1819.



coast—indicates shipwreck. If so, at least two notable persons from Norfolk so met their death about this time, for at Ingham (a village not many miles from Reepham, and within the sound of the waves)<sup>1</sup> rests another warrior on a similar bed of stones; his arms, too, are in the same peculiar position as Sir Roger's. The inference from these facts is strong, that the tombs are the work of the same hand; examination of their details makes this conclusion irresistible.

The statuettes along the base of this tomb are by no means the least interesting part of it. They afford an early example of the introduction on tombs and brasses of the so-called "weepers" (not the



Fig. 3.—Stapleton Tomb, Ingham, Norfolk.

earliest, for there are four tombs of earlier date so enriched in Westminster Abbey alone).<sup>3</sup> The first figure (from left to right) looks like a Cistercian monk;<sup>4</sup> the second is a widow; the third and seventh, young men (sons they may be); the fourth, a lady (*query*, mother); the fifth, an old man (*query*, father); the sixth, a lady (*query*, daughter-in-law); and the eighth, a nun (probably also a daughter); each of which portrays in a faithful manner the monastic or the civil dress of the period.

E. M. BELOE, JUNR.

<sup>1</sup> Hunstanton.

<sup>2</sup> There are twelve weepers on the Ingham tomb placed in a similar manner along the base.

<sup>3</sup> Viz., Aveline, Countess of Lancaster, 1269. Edmund Crouchback, 1296. Aymer de Valence, 1323. John of Eltham, 1334.

<sup>4</sup> Per my friend Mr. St. John Hope, Assistant Secretary Soc. Antiq.

## LEATHLEY CHURCH, YORKSHIRE.

STANDING upon a knoll near the village of Leathley, in the valley of the Wharfe, Yorkshire, is the village church supposed to have been dedicated to St. Oswald. Although not mentioned in Domesday Book, the church has an early origin, and from the rude style of masonry existing in the lower portion of the tower, and its dedication to the Saxon saint of St. Oswald, colour is given to the supposition that its



Fig. 1.—Tower of Leathley Church, Yorkshire.

foundation was Saxon. The tower is square in form, and is built of thin laminal sandstone, with massive groining of coarsely wrought grit. If not erected by Saxon workmen, the work is certainly Early Norman. The four sides are broken by small, round-headed lights, without baluster shafts, and are splayed on the inside only,

The body of this ancient edifice contains Norman work, the chancel arch being undoubtedly Early Norman. It is difficult to fix a date for

the nave arcades. The capitals are of unusual shape, and are decorated with symbols which cannot fail to interest the antiquary. These comprise the crescent moon, the crescent fetter-locked (sometimes called the "spectacle ornament"), the Tau cross, sun circles, cross, and the sacred monogram I H S. How did those early masons obtain their information from such a distant past?

The tower arch has been closed up, but an old door remains, which is a rich and rare specimen of early workmanship in iron (figs. 3 and 4). The wood of which it is composed seems to be of sweet chestnut, often used



Fig. 2.—Symbols in Leathley Church, Yorkshire.

in the construction of the roofs of ancient cathedrals, as spiders never nest in it, and it is covered with elaborately foliated stanchions and hinges, which exhibit imprints of the hammer, as they left the workman's hand. The intricate central band is said to be unique, and the character of the design generally appears to suggest that of the crosses and tombs of the late Saxon or Early Norman period. The door is certainly a gem of early work, and is considered to be one of the finest examples of the smith's craft remaining in England. Over the door is an opening from an upper storey of the tower, supposed to have been the leper chamber.



Fig. 5.—Arm Chair in Leathley Church, Yorkshire.



Fig. 6.—Section of Arm Chair in Leathley Church, Yorkshire.

In the chancel of the church there is an old arm chair, having carved on its back symbols of the sacramental elements represented by clusters of grapes and ears of wheat; also of the Holy Trinity by three ears of wheat on one stalk. The chair contains no date indicating the period of its construction, but from the presence of the rose and



Fig. 3.—Section of Ancient Door in Leathley Church, Yorkshire.



Fig. 4.—Ancient Door in Leathley Church, Yorkshire.

thistle as part of its ornamentation, the union of England and Scotland is evidently symbolised.

Near the entrance gates of Leathley Church are the ancient village "stocks," with five holes for imprisonment. They were used for the last time about sixty years ago. The shaft of the old village cross and whipping-post remain close by. Some time ago the Rev. Henry Canham, rector of Leathley, found upon the adjoining glebe lands

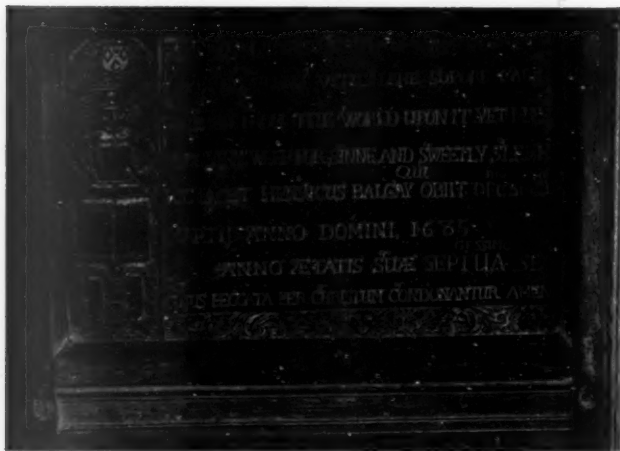
portions of three ancient querns or hand millstones, consisting of two upper and one nether stones. The "two women at the mill" seem to have pursued their labours down to a later date about Leathley than in any other portion of Wharfedale, as the records of their toil are very numerous about there. Several similar querns have been used as wallstones in the masonry of Stainburn Church, in Leathley Parish.

W. CUDWORTH.

#### QUAINT BRASS AT HOPE, DERBYSHIRE.

THERE is at Hope, a North Derbyshire village, a very quaint little memorial brass. It is let into the fine old oak panelling on the north side of the chancel, just outside the altar-rails. It is thus inscribed :—

"A mundo ablactans, oculos tamen ipse reflecto  
Sperno, flens vitis, lene sopore cado."  
"Wained from the world, upon it yet I peepe,  
Disdaine it, weepe for sinne, and sweetly sleepe."  
"Hic jacet Henricus Balgay qui obiit decimo septimo die  
Martii Anno Domini—1685."  
"Anno aetatis suae septuagesimo septimo. Cujus peccata  
per Christum condonantur.—Amen."



The Balgay Brass in Hope Church, Derbyshire.

The family of Balgay (pronounced "Bawgey") is the most ancient and aristocratic in Derbyshire; originally possessed of enormous wealth, they held more land in the twelfth century than any other family in Derbyshire. The halls of Derwent, Aston, Hope, and Rowlee were all family seats, which, owing to their becoming impoverished during the Civil Wars, they gradually lost. Derwent



Hall now belongs to the Duke of Norfolk, and is as delightful a residence as can be well imagined. Aston and Rowlee are no more. Hope is, I believe, a public-house. The Balguy family were firmly established in this neighbourhood in 1130, and the family pedigree is almost free from any apocryphal additions. Add. MSS. 28-113, f. 41. The arms are: or—3 lozenges, az. 2 and 1 on a shield above.

The various members of this family seem to have greatly benefited their churches, a worthy example for the *nouveaux riches* of the present day. At Hope the second bell bears the inscription: "Jarvis Bawgey, great benefactor, 1733"; while at the neighbouring church of Derwent Woodlands is a font thus inscribed: "Henery Bauegey, 1672," and also bears his family arms. Another fine piece of wood-carving in Hope church, near to this little brass, has on it: "Henry Balgay, A.D. 1652."

This fine old family still keeps the name alive in its native county, Derbyshire. Some persons have endeavoured to give to the name a Scottish derivation, but it does not seem very likely. Would a Scotchman have been so free with his purse to king and church?

G. LE BLANC SMITH.



## Notices of New Publications.

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"THE GROWTH OF THE MANOR," by P. VINOGRADOFF, M.A. (Swan, Sonnenschein & Co.)—All students of the social development of England will cordially welcome this new volume from the pen of Professor Vinogradoff. His volume on *Villainage in England*, which was published some twelve years ago, was at once recognised as an authoritative work, a place which it has since steadily maintained. We are told in the preface that that work was intended to pave the way towards a discussion of the origins of the manorial system. When, however, the time came for Dr. Vinogradoff—who is now Corpus Professor of Jurisprudence in the University of Oxford—to follow up the thread of his investigations, he found that "their ground had been, to a great extent, shifted by the remarkable work achieved in the meantime by English scholars." The three notable writers to whose work he thus refers are Mr. Round, Professor Maitland, and Mr. Seebohm. He considers that they have "approached the problem from new points of view, have brought to bear on it a vast amount of new evidence, and have sifted the materials at our disposal with admirable skill." The professor, however, rightly considers that there is still room for such a work as that now before us—nay, the very success of modern special investigations, such as those so successfully carried out by the three scholars just named, makes the want of co-ordination of results felt more and more. Professor Maitland's unravelling of the mysteries of legal antiquities, Mr. Round's masterly exposition of Domesday and other fiscal documents, and Mr. Seebohm's researches into the developments of servile communities, all stand apart from each other, and in some respects present strong divergences of opinion. It is just at this period in the study of early social England, when newer and more accurate scholarship has upset the old vague theories of the past, but has at the same time presented a clash of opinions from different points of view, that a summing up of results becomes necessary. Professor Vinogradoff is the one man capable of satisfactorily effecting such a survey, and producing what he terms an harmonious combination as to the general course of our social evolution. Every scholar is ready to admit his remarkable powers, not only of individual research, but of assimilation of the materials collected by others; and the very fact of his foreign origin—leaving a professorship at the University of Moscow to take up another at the University of Oxford—removes him from local prejudice and gives him a position

exceptionally favourable for the undertaking of a general survey. The first section of the book is devoted to a discussion of Celtic tribal arrangements, Welsh, Irish, and Scotch. The professor shows that, though a good deal depends on inferences and probabilities during the Celtic epoch, there is, nevertheless, a solid and extensive foundation in the considerable store of ascertained facts that can be gathered from the legal enactments which have come down from the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth centuries. From this discussion it becomes obvious that some of the elements which went towards the formation of the coming manorial system were of Celtic origin, built up on a state of society in which free tribesmen lived by the side of serfs. In the second section Dr. Vinogradoff discusses Roman influence, wherein he somewhat modifies the extreme views of Mr. Seebohm, who conceived that almost every subsequent manorial detail had its counterpart or germ in the complete organisation of the Roman villa. It is shown that the conquest of Britain did not produce the same thorough Romanisation of the people as was accomplished in Gaul or in Spain. "The absorption of Celtic nationality by Roman culture was by no means complete, and had not even been carried very far, when the Saxons broke in, and Roman rule collapsed." The rest of the book is occupied with treating of the English conquest, the grouping of the folk, the open field system, the principles of the Domesday survey, ownership and husbandry, and social classes. Each of these treatises is full of well marshalled facts, supported by notes, and, above all, clearly written. Even if all Dr. Vinogradoff's conclusions are not accepted, the examination of this book by every economic student is imperative.

"THE BROOCHES OF MANY NATIONS," by HARRIET A. HEATON. Edited by J. POTTER BRISCOE, F.R.Hist.S., &c., with 78 illustrations by the authoress. (London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co., Ltd.; and Nottingham: Murray's Nottingham Book Co., Ltd.)—In this work the authoress has missed a splendid opportunity! The subject is one so large and so attractive, and the material at one's disposal so ample and diversified, that it would be a very easy matter to write several volumes, profusely illustrated, upon so delightful a theme. In this work, of some fifty pages of art printing, with side margins, nearly half of the matter relates to sundry other objects having little or no connection with brooches at all, such as axes, hammer-heads, &c. The authoress regards all early brooches as *fibula*, and quite ignores the fact that there were two distinct types of primitive dress fasteners, to wit, the pin-ring brooch, which may have eventually developed into the pen-annular brooch; and the *fibula*, which survives in the common safety-pin.

In *The Reliquary* for January, 1904, appeared a paper dealing with the former type in a very logical manner. Survivals of the pin-ring

brooch are even now worn by tramps in Ireland and Scotland, and the modern examples of the pen-annular form are so abundant and so diversified in decorative design in Northern Africa and in Norway and Sweden, to say nothing of France and Germany, that scores of various forms might have been illustrated. As survivals of the ancient type these would have been most valuable for comparison. The illustrations in this book are not good, nor do they serve any definite purpose, in showing the gradual growth of any form or design. The picture of a ceremonial axe with its elaborated handle *may* have been intended as a parallel to the modern brooch, the usefulness in both cases having been sacrificed to symbolism and ornament. But the authoress does not say so. Altogether, the book is more remarkable for what it leaves out rather than for what it says, which is greatly to be regretted.

"THE ANCIENT CASTLES OF IRELAND," by C. L. ADAMS (Elliot Stock).—The number of ruined castles in Ireland is considerable, and afford constant proof of the unsettled condition of that country for several centuries.

"These castles range in dimensions from the few blocks of protruding masonry on the green sward, which mark the foundation of a ruined peel tower, or the scarcely traceable line of wall which was once a fortified bawn, to the majestic ruins of castles like Adair, with its three distinct and separate fortifications one within the other, or Royal Trim, deemed strong enough to be a prison for English princes."

Of these numerous castles Mr. Adams has selected about seventy-five, which he considers to be those of chief interest, and has given a few pages of epitomised history and description of each, with a list of authorities consulted. The book is distinctly interesting and useful to others than the mere tourist so far as it goes; but we hope it may be but the precursor to several sound and thorough volumes on the same subject. Illustrations are given of about half the castles that are described, some of which are effective and picturesque; but they are of little help to the archæologist or student of architecture. There is not a single ground plan—an all-important matter where the history of castles is concerned.

"YORK: THE STORY OF ITS WALLS AND CASTLES," by T. P. COOPER (Elliot Stock).—In the preparation of this interesting and well illustrated volume Mr. Cooper has made diligent use of all printed material, including the many Calendars of the State Papers. It is, however, unfortunate, so far as the completeness of the work is concerned, that the original records have not been consulted. Nevertheless, a desirable book has been produced, and the incidental matter relative to the many walled towns of mediæval England is particularly useful. The use made of

city gates for the exhibition of the heads or members of traitors, real or imaginary, is discussed at some length. Edward I. caused the right arm of David, the Welsh prince, with his ring on one of the fingers, to be hung up over one of the York gates. The graceful turrets of Micklegate Bar were the most favoured site for these barbaric exhibitions, as it was considered the most important of the city gates. After the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, Henry IV. had the four quarters of Hotspur Percy despatched to London, Chester, Newcastle, and Shrewsbury, but the head was reserved as an ornament for Micklegate Bar, York. Sir William Plumpton's head occupied a like position in 1405, and that of Henry, Lord Scrope, in 1415. During the Wars of the Roses, the heads of Lancastrian and Yorkist leaders alternately occupied this place of honour. Shakespeare mentions the retaliatory conduct of Edward IV. in this respect in his play of "Henry VI." :—

"From off the gates of York fetch down the head,  
Your father's head, which Clifford placed there;  
Instead thereof, let this supply the room;  
Measure for measure must be answered."

Elizabeth caused the Earl of Northumberland's head to be spiked on Micklegate Bar in 1572. It is not a little singular that in his chronicle of these barbarities, Mr. Cooper omits all reference to the not infrequent spiking of heads and limbs of Roman Catholic priests under both Elizabeth and James on all the York gates, under the technically legal but false notion that there were traitors on account of the faith. The peculiarly hideous martyrdom of two most worthy priests under the like plea—Lockwood and Catherick—and the allotment of their dismembered bodies to all the York gates, as late as 1642, ought certainly not to have been eschewed. The last heads exposed on Micklegate Bar were two of the Jacobites after the battle of Culloden in 1746. For seven years the heads of these two faithful adherents of the Stuart cause remained on the Bar, but on a stormy January night in 1754 they disappeared. This was regarded as a most treasonable act. The mayor and commonalty offered a reward of £10 for the discovery of the offenders. The Privy Council met at Whitehall and increased the reward to £100 for the discovery of "this wicked, traitorous, and outrageous proceeding." A few months later a tailor of the city was convicted of the offence, heavily fined, and imprisoned for two years.

"EARLY SCOTTISH CHARTERS," edited by Sir ARCHIBALD C. LAWRIE (Glasgow: James MacLehose & Sons).—To collect, index, and fully annotate this fine series of Scottish Charters prior to 1153 must have been a work of considerable magnitude. It has been well accomplished by Sir Archibald Lawrie. The greater portion of these charters have been previously printed, but only by societies such as the Bannatyne,

Maitland, Spalding, and Grampian Clubs, whose proceedings are strictly confined to their own members. There are, however, a fair number that now appear for the first time; they are transcribed from documents in the Register House in Edinburgh, and from the British Museum. The latter are chiefly taken from the chartularies of two Northamptonshire houses of Cluniac monks, the abbey of St. Andrew, Northampton, and the priory of St. Augustine, Daventry; they chiefly relate to the gifts of David, King of Scotland, who had so large an English holding. The charters are 271 in number. They are well and concisely annotated, and the whole volume is thoroughly indexed. The author, in his modest preface, says:—"I hope some readers may be glad to have these documents collected in a single volume, printed in intelligible Latin, with explanatory and critical notes." His hope certainly ought to be abundantly realised.

We have on our table "A HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF DUBLIN," Part III., by FRANCIS ELRINGTON BALL (Dublin: Alex. Thom & Co.), well written and illustrated, and containing many points for the antiquary.—"THE HISTORY OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK," by Canon THOMPSON (Elliot Stock), with singularly poor illustrations; it is a mere expanded guide-book of no particular merit or demerit.—"A CATALOGUE OF BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, &c., RELATIVE TO THE CITY AND COUNTY OF LINCOLN IN THE LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY," compiled by A. R. CORNS; the city librarian has doubtless done well to have this catalogue so well printed, but it is quite incorrect to print on the top of the title-page, "Bibliotheca Lincolniensis," for it is nothing of the kind, being absurdly incomplete for such a comprehensive name.—And "KING WILLIAM THE WANDERER," by W. G. COLLINGWOOD (Brown, Langham & Co.), a charmingly printed version of an old British saga.

"MEMORIALS OF OLD DEVONSHIRE," edited by F. J. SNELL, M.A. (Bemrose & Sons Ltd.).—This is, in many respects, a delightful volume. Not only are the illustrations numerous and singularly charming, and the typography and general appearance exceptionally good, but Mr. Snell has done his best to fulfil the promise made in the opening sentence of the preface, namely: "To present what may be termed a history of Devon in episode." His own sketch of historic Devonshire, which comes first in the book, is well turned and comprehensive; whilst the last paper on "Tiverton as a Pocket Borough," based on original documents, also by the editor, is an amusing exposure of the kind of connection kept up with small west-country towns by big families prior to the memorable Reform Bill. The blowing-up of the parish church of Great Torrington during the Commonwealth struggle;



the strange affair of the Crediton Barns, in 1549; the landing of the Prince of Orange at Brixham, in 1688; the story of the French prisoners at Dartmoor; the history of the Devon Regiment, that gained the nickname of "The Bloody Eleventh" from the part it took in the terrible battle of Salamanca; and the stirring adventures of that great smuggler, Jack Rattenbury, known as the "Rob Roy of the West," are all set forth with much spirit by different writers. There are also several well-written papers on quieter themes, such as "Herrick and Dean Prior," by Mr. F. H. Colson; and "Ottery St. Mary and its Memories," by Lord Coleridge.

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## News Items and Comments.

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### THE ANGLESEY CRYSTAL VASE.

AMONGST those who saw an account of the purchase of this vase in the various public prints, no definite idea seemed to be formed of the purpose for which it was made. A reference to *The Archaeological Journal*, vol. ii., p. 168, will explain fully its object. The paragraph runs thus:—"An example of a very elegant design is preserved in the cabinet of antiquities in the King's Library at Paris: it is one of the vials or cruets used to contain the wine and water for the service of the Mass, termed *amulæ* or *phialæ* and in French *burettes*. The height of the original measures 6 ins."

The wood-cut which accompanies this paragraph shows a very elaborately ornamented jug of the exact size and form of that purchased by the Messrs. Duveen, to which attention has been so much attracted.

HENRY LAVER, F.S.A.

Colchester,

May 16, 1905.

### MUSEUM CURATORS AND THE PUBLIC.

MAY I be allowed to utter a friendly protest against the footnote in Mr. Lovett's article on p. 143 of the current number of *The Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist*, for which I presume the Editor is responsible. I think it is hardly fair to make a sweeping accusation against a body of hard-working public servants, very many, and I believe the majority of whom, are in no way worthy of the stigma thus cast upon them. I have a very extensive acquaintance amongst museum curators, and I have regularly attended their deliberations at the annual meetings of the Museums Associations for some years back. My experience is that

they are extremely anxious to make their museums interesting and instructive to the public, and certainly a great amount of time has been spent at these meetings in considering the best means of accomplishing this desirable end. Of course, I know that there are black sheep in every flock, just as there are some librarians who consider it their duty to protect their books from the public, and if the Editor had said "some officials," or in any other way limited the scope of his accusation, no exception could be taken to what he says. I hope he will not think me impertinent if I venture to express the opinion that the statement as it stands is both unjust and uncalled for, and is hardly likely to help on that rational development of museum work which I know he desires as much as I do.

Manchester Museum,  
May 2, 1905.

WM. E. HOYLE,  
Director of the Museum.

#### OLD TITHE BARNs.

MISS CHARLOTTE MASON has written to the Editor expressing her regret that she inadvertently omitted to acknowledge her indebtedness to articles by Mr. Francis B. Andrews, F.R.I.B.A., in *The Antiquary* for information on the subject of "Old Tithe Barns."

#### ARCHÆOLOGY POUR RIRE.

ACCORDING to *The Athenæum* an exhibition was made at a recent meeting of the British Archæological Association of a collection of Palæolithic implements, consisting chiefly of barbed and leaf-shaped arrow-heads. The proper place for such rarities is the case where the Eoliths dwell in the British Museum. If you meet an Eolithic person in the street don't laugh, simply smile. He can't help being a monkey, though he'd like to be a man who can chip and chop a flint in better style.



